

**PEAK-OVER-THRESHOLD FLOOD FREQUENCY ANALYSIS
OF STREAMFLOW SERIES FOR
INSULAR NEWFOUNDLAND**

CENTRE FOR NEWFOUNDLAND STUDIES

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**PEAK-OVER-THRESHOLD FLOOD FREQUENCY ANALYSIS
OF
STREAMFLOW SERIES FOR INSULAR NEWFOUNDLAND**

By

© Kenneth Gordon Taylor

**A Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies
in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the
Degree of Master of Engineering**

**FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE
MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY OF NEWFOUNDLAND**

APRIL 2001

ST. JOHN'S NEWFOUNDLAND CANADA

Abstract

In this thesis, regional models for the prediction of flood quantiles for streams on the island of Newfoundland are developed using historical streamflow data which has been subject to peak-over-threshold analysis. The Peak-Over-Threshold method of flood frequency analysis allows extraction of more relevant data from a historical flow series than would be available using the conventional annual maximum flow method. As a result, the peak-over-threshold method is of particular interest in regions where data on streamflows is limited. This is the case in Newfoundland.

Streamflow series from 63 rivers on the island of Newfoundland are considered. This data is modelled using a Poisson arrival process and the Exponential and Pareto magnitude distributions. Results from single-station peak-over-threshold analysis are compared to those obtained from the annual maxima series modelled using the 3-Parameter Lognormal and Generalized Extreme Value distributions. The island is divided into hydrologically homogeneous regions. Hydrologically homogeneous regions are defined as geographic areas in which flood flows are identically distributed except for scale. Regional index flood estimators are developed using the data generated from the peak-over-threshold approach.

For the quantile estimates generated for the 63 data series analysed, there is no statistically significant difference between the central position of the results of the 3-Parameter Lognormal,

Generalized Extreme Value, Poisson-Exponential, and Poisson-Pareto models. Model error for the single station analysis is tested using a bootstrap approach. For the standard error of quantile estimates generated by resampling, the Poisson-Exponential Distribution model exhibited comparable standard error for lower quantiles and lower standard error for higher quantiles. Because of this, the Poisson-Exponential model was determined to be the most robust for a variety of quantiles. Although the Poisson-Pareto distribution is more flexible, it appears to be inferior to the Poisson-Exponential model in this case.

Regional models were developed using an index flood approach. The index flood was taken as the two-year return period flood, $Q(2)$, and regional estimators for index floods for each region were developed by non-linear regression on physical basin descriptors. Regional models developed using nonlinear regression exhibited better fit to the underlying data than did the models produced using the traditional log-linear method. The nonlinear models exhibited lower bias, and also less estimation error. The ratios of $Q(T)/Q(2)$ were easily calculated, and allowed estimation of flood quantiles for stations in the regions with a reasonably good fit to the expected values. For most regions RMSE was less than 10% of the mean of the expected values. The estimated values from application of the index flood technique tended to overestimate the quantile slightly and results were somewhat positively skewed from expected values. This will tend to produce more conservative (higher) estimates of flood quantiles.

In the Southwest Region the equation which performed best (generated estimates with the lowest error) relied on three basin descriptors. The number of gauge records available in this region was only six. The coefficients developed for this equation are also somewhat suspect as they suggest a significant scaling of the result. In this region, the use of the whole island equation may provide a more reliable result and is recommended.

Quantile estimates generated using the index flood method produced the poorest results in the Northwest Region. However, results were still reasonable and at lower quantiles, the RMSE was less than 10% of the mean expected value. When the estimators derived for the whole island were applied to this region they produced slightly better results. Thus with the exception of the Northwest Region, the use of regional index floods produced improved quantile estimates when compared to the estimates produced by equations developed for the whole island.

Acknowledgements

I am grateful for the guidance, advice, and patience of Dr. Leonard Lye in the preparation of this thesis.

I am also grateful for the financial support and accommodation in work schedules provided by my employers during the course of my research. These employers have included the Department of Environment and Labour, The College of the North Atlantic, The SGE Group, and Fracflow Consultants.

Thanks go to Ed Byrne for his help in developing computer programs and data structuring.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter starts with a discussion of hydrologic modelling, how models are developed, and the types of models commonly applied to predict peak flows. Following this general discussion, the objectives and methodology of this thesis are explained, and the outline of the thesis is given. At this time, it should be noted that the work of this thesis is concerned only with the island portion of the province of Newfoundland and any reference to Newfoundland in this thesis is intended to indicate only the island portion.

1.1 Background

One of the most difficult problems in hydrology is the prediction of frequency of occurrence of future streamflow magnitudes, or flood quantiles. A flood quantile is a flood event of known or estimated probability of recurrence. That is, for 100 years of data the 75th quantile is the flood event not exceeded 75% of the time. When studying this problem, the engineer or hydrologist wants to develop a model by which he can predict the probability that a future event of a given magnitude will occur within some time period of interest. For example, an event with a magnitude which occurs on average once every hundred years has a probability of occurrence of 1/100 in any given year. Such an event is referred to as a hundred-year event or as an event with a 100-year return period.

The hydrologist and engineer must understand these events in terms of their probability of occurrence over the life of a structure. The accurate prediction of flood quantiles is difficult, but this information is critical in the design of bridges, culverts, dams, flood protection works, and other works which are impacted by the flow of a stream. Failure to design these structures with sufficient capacity can result in failures which are costly and result in loss of human life. Alternatively, structures which are designed with excessive capacity are unacceptably costly to construct. Hence, the ability to provide accurate probabilistic models of flood events has significance from both an economic and environmental standpoint (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995).

Hydrologic models allow the hydrologist or engineer to reduce complex physical systems to components and to make predictions of hydrologic behaviour in a deterministic or probabilistic sense (Haan, Johnson and Brakensiek, 1982). However, all models are incomplete approximations of real behaviour, and the output information from a model is seldom an exact representation of the actual response of the real system to the same inputs. Additionally, models are generally designed to predict only limited components of system output response. Thus a model designed to predict flood quantiles may predict the magnitude of a flood corresponding to a particular probability of occurrence but may say nothing about the duration of that flood or the shape of the flood hydrograph. Generally, as the amount of explanatory information integrated into the model and the amount of information contained in the model output increases, the complexity of the model and

the uncertainty associated with the model output increases as well. The task of the modeller is to model the actual system as closely as possible while keeping the model as simple as possible.

The simplest type of flood model occurs where individuals living adjacent to a stream witness a flood event and subsequently adjust their construction practices to accommodate this high flow condition. Over a long period, information on the behaviour of a stream is passed along through the group and an understanding of the stream's behaviour, a model, becomes cultural information. The individuals involved do not require any understanding of the underlying processes related to the high flow or any knowledge of probability concepts to apply their model.

Models which require intimate knowledge of the behaviour of a particular stream over an extended period of time are limited in their application to the stream upon which the knowledge is based. To extrapolate the behaviour of unobserved streams from knowledge about observed streams, mathematical models are used. Information about streams with known behaviour is utilized to develop an idea of the behaviour of a stream which has not been observed. Where components of mathematical models are considered to be free from random variation, the model is defined as deterministic (Haan, Johnson and Brakensiek, 1982). The Associate Committee on Hydrology (1989) describes the *flood envelope chart* as an example of a deterministic approach. An example of this type of chart from the work of Neill (1986), is included as Figure 1.1. High flood

discharges may be plotted against drainage area to show a relationship. This relationship may be expressed as an equation:

$$Q = C * A^B \quad (1)$$

Where Q is a high discharge of unknown return period, A being the area of the drainage basin, and C and B being coefficients determined by the modeller. The selection of drainage area as a primary predictor of flood flows is a logical one since the amount of water available for streamflow is directly related to the amount which is collected over the drainage basin area. This approach is based on a collection of observed maximum flows for a number of rivers in a region and no probability of occurrence is implied. The assumption of similar hydrologic behaviour among streams in close proximity is implicit in this model. The concept of regional hydrologic homogeneity will be discussed in some detail later in this thesis.

In statistical modelling, the modeller uses known information about the event of interest and the underlying explanatory phenomena to develop models which allow inferences about future events. The mathematical model provides a simplified explanation of how the explanatory variables influence the variable of interest. The quality of the model is determined to a large degree by the modeller's understanding of the relationship between the variables, and by the amount and quality of relevant explanatory information which it uses to produce its outcome.

Some models use an underlying phenomenon, such as rainfall, to obtain model inputs with known probability of occurrence. The model then relates these inputs to streamflow in terms of basin characteristics. The rational formula is an example of this type of model.

$$Q = kCIA \quad (2)$$

Where Q is a discharge of known return period, A being the area of the drainage basin, I being a rainfall event of known intensity, duration and frequency of occurrence, C being a coefficient related to surface characteristics of the drainage basin, and k being a conversion factor to allow use of metric units. The rational formula is an attempt to model the output characteristics of a stream (streamflow) based on the physical relationship between the system input (rainfall) and the drainage system it must pass through. In this type of model, the inputs are estimated using a statistical model of rainfall, basin characteristics are estimated from maps or field data, equations are derived relating rainfall inputs to streamflow, and these equations are calibrated to the streamflow conditions for known inputs.

In models like the rational formula, the quality of the input data has a significant influence on the reliability of the outcome. For the rational formula to work well, long rainfall records are required containing not just daily rainfall amounts but information about rainfall intensity. The rainfall data must come from a source in close proximity to the stream which is being studied. In addition, the

model implies that the probability distribution of basin output is the same as that of input, which may not necessarily be the case. The rational formula works best for small uncomplicated drainage basins where rainfall input produces output response quickly and there are few attenuating features. In large complex basins, the input signal takes much longer to propagate through the system and is moderated by a number of processes. The output of large systems may not reflect the shape of the input signal. Thus, for large basins there may be problems with application of models like the rational formula.

Statistical methods have long been applied to historical streamflow data to estimate the frequency of occurrence of future streamflow magnitudes. If a long streamflow record exists for the stream under consideration, an appropriate probability model may be fitted to this long data record to yield good estimates of flood quantiles and results from the model may be calibrated against known data points within the record. For example, if a probability model is fitted to a data series with 100 years of data, the calculated magnitude of an event with probability of 0.04, may be compared to the fourth highest recorded flow in the 100 years.

The most common methods use series of Annual Maximum Flows (AMF) from gauged streams. In this approach, only the maximum flow in any year is considered relevant. Other information about flow magnitudes is discarded. Probability distributions are fitted to the annual series to produce estimates of flood quantiles, Q_T , for gauged streams.

The 3-Parameter Lognormal Distribution and the Generalized Extreme Value Distribution are two probability models which have been applied for prediction of flood quantiles from AMF data series. Other distributions are also available, including the Log-Pearson Type III, and the Wakeby distribution. However, Beersing (1990) found that the Log-Pearson Type III and Wakeby distributions exhibited poorer fit for Newfoundland data than the 3-Parameter Lognormal and Generalized Extreme Value. Only the 3-Parameter Lognormal and Generalized Extreme Value distributions have been considered for modelling of AMF series in this thesis.

Where the record of historical streamflows is short, fitting probability distributions to AMF series can be problematic. Obtaining a satisfactory fit may be difficult, and once a fit is obtained the outcomes may be unstable and highly dependent on individual values in the data. Some researchers have found that the limited availability of data reduces the utility of sophisticated probabilistic models and that simpler models perform just as well for these limited data sets (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). One way to combat this problem is to extract more data from the historical records available. Where the amount of historical data which is available for the construction of models is very limited, the peak-over-threshold method of analysis offers certain advantages. The primary advantage of the peak-over-threshold method, compared to the conventional annual maximum flow approach, is that it allows the incorporation of more explanatory information in model formulation. The inclusion of more explanatory information should improve the quality of model outputs.

The Peak-Over-Threshold (POT) method is a statistical approach which allows extraction of more data from a streamflow record than would be available using the AMF approach (NERC, 1975). The POT method is also known as the Partial-Duration-Series (PDS) method. In the POT approach, all independent flow peaks above a set threshold are considered relevant. The POT method can be particularly useful when the period of record is short because POT series can be selected to contain a larger number of peaks than the AMF series (ACH, 1989). The threshold may be adjusted to increase or decrease the amount of information considered. The larger amounts of data generated using the POT method should permit better fitting of probability distributions. This additional information constitutes the added value in using this approach rather than the more conventional AMF method. However, results must be evaluated against known stream behaviour, and it is incorrect to assume that the use of a larger number of peaks will necessarily produce a more efficient model (NERC, 1975).

The modelling of POT data is generally done by combining a Poisson recurrence process with another distribution for magnitude. The Exponential Distribution and Pareto Distribution are popular choices and their use is well supported in a number of studies. The Exponential distribution has the advantage that it is simple and requires the estimation of only one parameter. The Pareto distribution is more flexible but requires estimation of two parameters. The use of both of these distributions is examined in this thesis.

As has been discussed in the preceding paragraphs, where the designer has access to long or short streamflow records, some understanding of the distribution of flood peaks for the stream may be reached. However, in many cases there is no data available for the location of interest. In these cases the designer must use regional models to estimate flood quantiles. A regional model is a model of drainage basin output (streamflow) which relates the output to basin descriptors and which has as an underlying assumption, the concept that basins with a hydrologically homogeneous region will behave in a similar manner. These models use flood frequency information from hydrologically similar streams to predict flood quantiles for the stream of interest. In cases where there is some streamflow information but it is limited, quantile estimates from regional models may be better than those obtained from distributions fitted to the data for the location. Such equations allow estimation of the flood quantile, Q_T , at a specific site based on regional equations. These equations may be developed for any region with similar hydrologic conditions throughout. In general, regional estimators are useful for improving flood quantile estimation at sites where little hydrologic information exists, and are essential for estimating flood quantiles at sites where no hydrologic data are available (Ashkar, 1994). Regionalisation is probably one of the most promising ways to improve flood quantile estimates (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995).

The hydrologist or engineer must exercise care in using either deterministic or statistical models. Model calculations generally require the assumption of homogeneity of response between the watershed under study and the watershed used to construct the model. Models are generally

devised using data from a restricted study region and individuals using these models must be sure that the assumptions and conditions of the model apply to the stream which they are studying. For example, the United States Department of Agriculture developed the SCS Curve Number Method (SCS, 1972) to simulate rainfall-runoff relationships for small agricultural basins. This method is unsuitable for areas with frozen ground and runoff from melting snow, and is of limited use in simulating rainfall-runoff events in the cold Canadian climate (ACH, 1989).

Both deterministic and statistical models may produce results which deviate significantly from actual streamflow behaviour. When interpreting model results, it is important that the designer exercise judgement and use local historical knowledge of the stream's behaviour to evaluate model outputs.

1.2 Research Objectives

A number of methods are used in the prediction of peak flows for Newfoundland. These include the Rational Method, SCS Curve Number Method, channel capacity methods, and local historical knowledge. Recent advances include the work of Beersing (1990) *Regional Flood Frequency Analysis for the Island of Newfoundland*, and the work of Susan Richter (1994) in her thesis *Relationships of Flow and Basin Variables on the Island of Newfoundland, Canada, with a Regional Application*.

The purpose of this work is to investigate the use of peak-over-threshold analysis to construct improved regional models for prediction of flood quantiles for insular Newfoundland. Caissie and El-Jabi (1991a) indicated that the POT method could be applied as successfully to Newfoundland flow series as it could to flow series for any other province. They also indicated that the POT method was found to work well in the eastern regions of Canada. They considered fifteen (15) gauge records for the island portion of Newfoundland, and the island was treated as one homogeneous region.

In this thesis, single station quantile estimators will be constructed by fitting probability distributions to streamflow data extracted using the peak-over-threshold method. Sixty-three (63) stations are used in this analysis. Using these single station quantile estimates, the island will be divided into regions and regional models will be constructed relating basin descriptors to flood quantiles. The index flood is related to quantile estimates obtained using POT analysis, and regional quantile estimators are produced.

This thesis incorporates more streamflow records than previous studies, extracts more data from each series by using the POT method, and generates regional quantile estimates using non-linear regression. This should produce better estimates of flood quantiles than those currently available.

1.3 Research Methodology

This thesis applies the peak-over-threshold method to generate flood quantiles for streamflow records for the island portion of Newfoundland. Regional quantile estimator models are constructed for the island. An extensive literature review is part of this research and the results of this review are contained in the first few chapters of this document. The last two chapters contain the experimental results and conclusions based on the literature review and the results. The general methodology applied in this research is explained below:

- 1. Incorporate the maximum number of suitable flow records into the data set.**
- 2. Perform AMF and POT analysis of selected flow records.**
- 3. Fit probability models to extracted data using the three parameter log-normal (3LN) and generalized extreme value (GEV) distributions for annual maximum flood (AMF) series, and the Poisson-Exponential (PED) and Poisson-Pareto (PPD) distributions for the POT series.**
- 4. Compare the output of AMF and POT models for prediction of flood quantiles for stations with historical records.**
- 5. Divide the island into regions and test regions for hydrologic homogeneity.**
- 6. Develop regional equations to estimate flood quantiles from basin parameters.**

1.4 Organization of this Document

This thesis starts with an introduction to the concepts of flood frequency analysis and the reasons for the application of the POT method to data series for the Island of Newfoundland. In Chapter 2, the study area is described and the known hydrologic characteristics discussed. In Chapter 3, the methods for flood frequency analysis of single data sets using annual maximum floods, AMF, and POT approaches are discussed and the quantile estimators derived for a number of probability distributions. In Chapter 4, the rationale for regionalisation and the methods for defining regions are discussed. In Chapter 5, drainage basin descriptors and the methods used to develop regional models are explained. In Chapter 6, the results of experimental analysis are presented. And finally, in Chapter 7 some conclusions are made regarding the expected and obtained results.

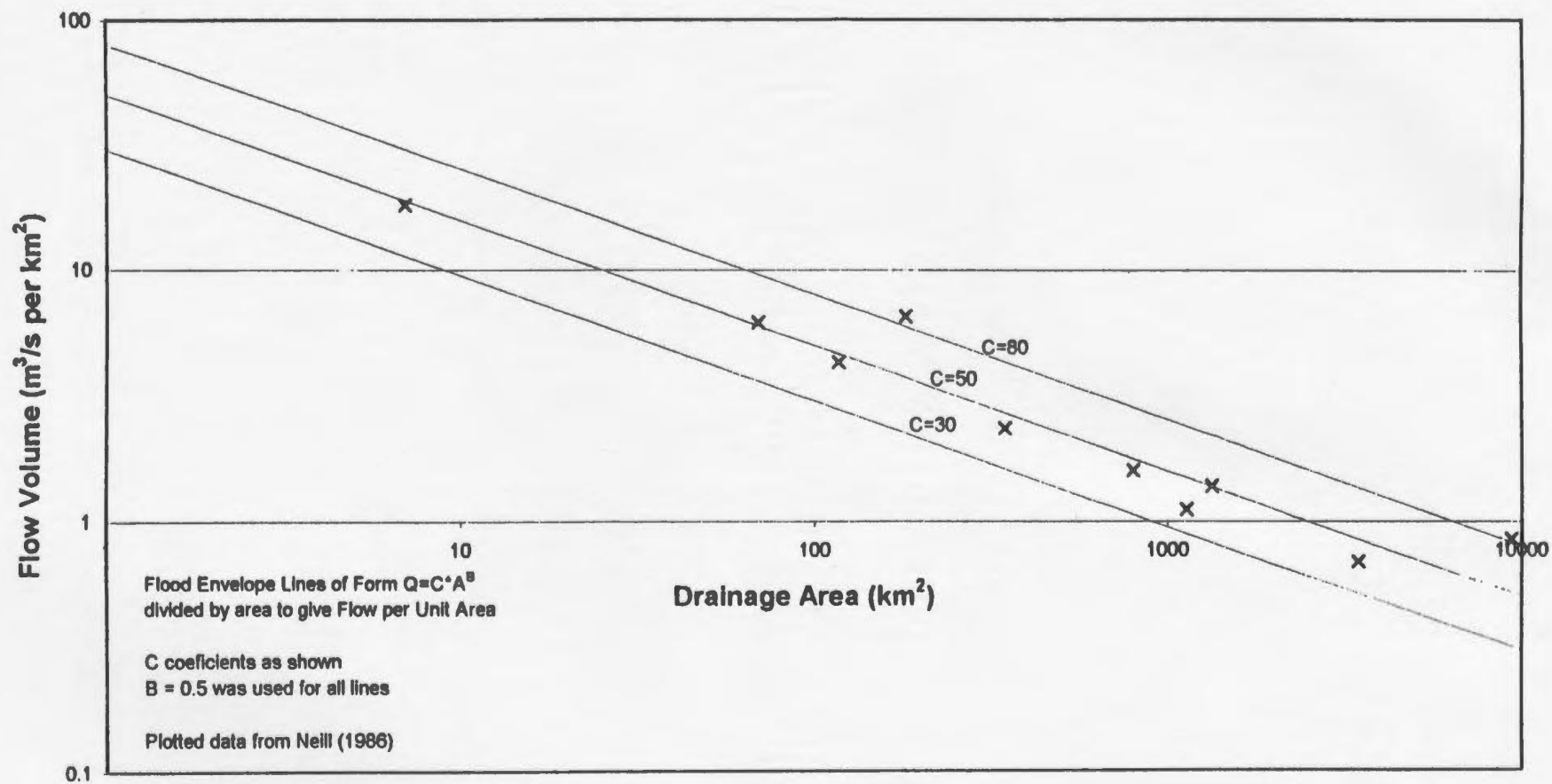


Figure 1.1 Flood Envelope Chart with data from Neill (1986)

2. DESCRIPTION OF STUDY AREA

In this chapter the location, topography, climate and hydrology of Insular Newfoundland are discussed. In addition, in the final section of this chapter, the availability of streamflow data for the island is presented.

2.1 Location of Study Area

The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, the easternmost province of Canada, consists of an island portion, Newfoundland, and a continental portion, Labrador, as shown in Figure 2.1. The island portion has an area of 111 390 square kilometres (DOE, 1992). The island is subject to continental weather from Canada as well as the Eastern seaboard of the United States. The waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence and North Atlantic surround the island and moderate continental effects while the Labrador Current and Gulf Stream both act to influence island climates. Because of these influences, the streamflow records for Newfoundland do not always exhibit the same behaviour as records at similar latitudes in Canada.

2.2 Topography and Land Use

Cassie and El-Jabi (1991a) treated Newfoundland as a single homogeneous hydrologic region. However, the island of Newfoundland has a diverse geographic makeup. The *Water Resources Atlas of Newfoundland* (DOE, 1992), states that, while most of the terrain is hilly and rugged, the nature of the landforms, surficial geology, and ground cover vary greatly and from east to west. A map of the island is shown in Figure 2.2.

The west coast is dominated by the Long Range Mountains, a part of a chain which stretches as far south as New England. In Newfoundland these mountains extend from the southwestern tip of the island to the end of the Northern Peninsula. The terrain ranges from 200 to 600 metres in elevation with some higher peaks (DOE, 1992). The mountains and long coastal inlets have profound localized impacts on the hydrology of this area. Much of this area is sparsely populated but timber harvesting activity is prevalent throughout. The Southwestern corner of the island is exposed to incoming storms and moist ocean air. Strong orographic influences may dominate the local hydrology. This area is sparsely populated, and much of the terrain is barren.

Terrain in the central region ranges in elevation from 200 to 300 metres (DOE, 1992). This area is also sparsely populated and timber harvesting is prevalent. The Avalon zone is connected to the main body of the Island by a narrow isthmus. This region has lower more undulating topography

with isolated peaks to 300 metres (DOE, 1992). This area is the most densely settled area of the province and contains the provincial capital.

2.3 Climate

Newfoundland is subject to varying weather patterns influenced by latitude, general atmospheric circulation, continental weather, and ocean currents. The normal seasonal conditions of Canada are prevalent, but there may be variations because of the strong influence of the surrounding ocean. A mild winter and cool summer are typical (DOE, 1992).

Temperature varies across the island with five degrees Celsius the average for the Avalon and Burin Peninsula regions and one degree Celsius average for the Northern Peninsula (DOE, 1992). Mean annual precipitation varies from 779 millimetres to 1644 millimetres across the island (DOE, 1992). Richter (1994) described the climate as cool, moist and maritime, characterized by unsettled weather with few extremes of temperature or precipitation.

The island is positioned in the belt of westerly trade winds (Richter, 1994). Prevailing winds flow from west to east bringing air and weather patterns from Eastern North America. Storms tend to cross the island in a generally southwest to northwest direction (Richter, 1994). In summer the prevailing westerly flow delivers warm air from the continent, and in winter cold continental air is

delivered to the region. The continental influence on local air temperatures is moderated by surrounding water and tends to decrease as one moves to the east. Variations in the position of the jet stream may produce winter conditions with incoming cold air from eastern Canada, or warm air from the eastern seaboard of the United States. Some parts of Newfoundland frequently experience midwinter warming which may persist for days.

Ocean circulation also has a major impact on Newfoundland weather. Along the Northern and Northeastern coasts the Labrador Current delivers cold water throughout the year. Along the South coast there is a strong impact from the warm Gulf Stream and many inlets remain ice free. The cold Labrador Current and the warm Gulf Stream converge at the southeast tip of the island and produce variability in atmospheric conditions. Fog is common in this region.

2.4 General Hydrology

Newfoundland streamflow records typically follow the normal patterns for continental North America. There are usually a spring peak and a fall peak with the spring peak being the most significant. However, as a result of the climate variability mentioned earlier, there are Newfoundland streams which do not fit the continental hydrology pattern or are subject to more variability than normal. The hydrographs in Figure 2.3 illustrate the variety of hydrologic patterns which are present in Newfoundland.

The streamflow records presented in Figure 2.3 are produced from the average daily flow over the period of record for each gauging station, smoothed by a seven day moving average. This average daily flow approach was adopted because it is more representative of general behaviour of the stream than one year of record. Torrent River, Figure 2.3a, on the Northern Peninsula, has a large spring runoff with much lower peaks later in the year. This river is most likely exhibiting a significant melt-out in the spring which produces the peak streamflow for this basin. However, some additional high flows occur as a result of storms later in the year. Northeast Pond River, Figure 2.3b, in the southeastern part of the island typically has its highest peak flow in the spring but also has significant events in the fall. In this area of the island, the occurrence of peak flows is less associated with snowmelt and more associated with storm events and rain-on-snow events. The Humber River, Figure 2.3c, shows a significant spring peak around April/May and then much lower peaks in the fall. In this basin, snowmelt produces significant runoff which generates high spring flows, but this river has a large basin which tends to attenuate the influence of storm events. Gander River, Figure 2.3d, shows a high spring peak, most likely associated with snowmelt, and some fall peaks which are associated with a fall storm events.

Surface water is more important than groundwater in Newfoundland (Richter, 1994). The island geology with a few exceptions is characterised by bedrock with a thin veneer of glacial till (Richter, 1994). Infiltration effects and aquifer storage do not have the significant impacts on flood flows which they have in regions with deep soil cover. This would lead to an expectation of quick runoff

and basins which were highly responsive to variations in rainfall input. However, in many basins, the presence of numerous water bodies and swamps flattens flood hydrographs (ACH, 1989).

Causes of flooding on the island of Newfoundland include rainfall alone, rainfall plus melting snow, ice jamming, and tidal events (ACH, 1989). Severe flooding which occurred in 1983 involved rainfall, melting snow, and ice jamming (ACH, 1989).

2.5 Seasonal Effects

Seasonal variations may be a source of problems in flood series analysis (Ashkar, 1994). The peaks associated with spring and fall may be different enough in mean and variance to comprise two different populations. Most annual flood series in Canada contain floods of two types which, on occasion, comprise two populations (ACH, 1989). It may not be feasible to assume that the daily flows of May have the same distribution as those of December (Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978).

In the Avalon and Burin Peninsula areas of the island most peak flows are the result of rainfall combined with melting snow (Beersing, 1990). However, peak flows have occurred in every month of the year and are not strongly grouped into one season. In the Central area most of the peak flows occur in April and May and are primarily caused by melting snow (Beersing, 1990). In the Northwest area melting snow is also the most prevalent cause of peak flows but peaks occur from

April to June (Beersing, 1990). In the Southwest area most peak flows occur most often between October and December as a result of rainfall events (Beersing, 1990).

A treatment which divides the flow record into seasons complicates the preparation of frequency analysis considerably (ACH, 1989). There is little reason to perform this division unless treatment as a single population produces a peculiar problem (ACH, 1989). In addition, for long data series, peak size tends to override seasonal effects (NERC, 1975). Ashkar (1994) considered only spring peaks. However, this type of data censoring is what one is trying to avoid by using the POT method.

In Newfoundland, peak flows occur in the periods April through June and November through February with little distinction as to timing between rainfall only and rain with melting snow events (ACH, 1989). For a study of flood quantiles the timing of the flood within the hydrologic year is of less interest than its magnitude. Because seasonal effects are poorly defined for Newfoundland, and because the modelling of seasonal effects increases model complexity significantly, seasonal variations were not modelled in this thesis.

2.6 Availability of Data

Data on streamflow is limited for much of Newfoundland. An area of 111 390 square kilometres has 93 active hydrometric stations. Most streamflow records are short and long records are biased toward larger watersheds.

Including both active and discontinued locations, data are available for one hundred and eleven numbered hydrometric stations at various locations throughout the province. Records vary in length from one year to about seventy years. Physiographic data for gauged basins are available from the Department of Environment and Labour, Government of Newfoundland.

Climate records are available from the Atmospheric Environment Service, Environment Canada. However, the climate network is sparse and most stations are coastal and at low elevation, making the data of limited use for hydrologic analysis (Richter, 1994).

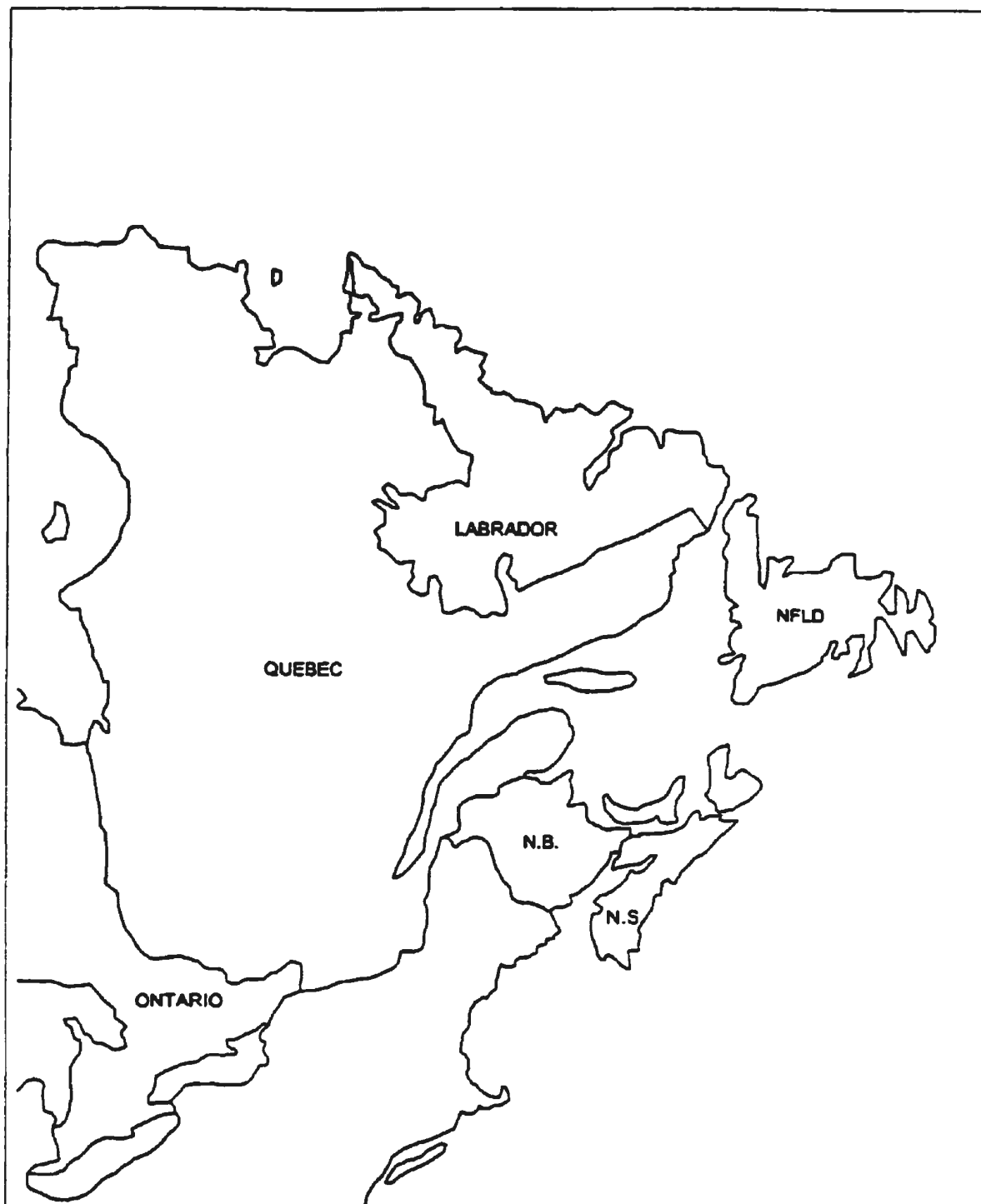


Figure 2.1 Map of Eastern Canada

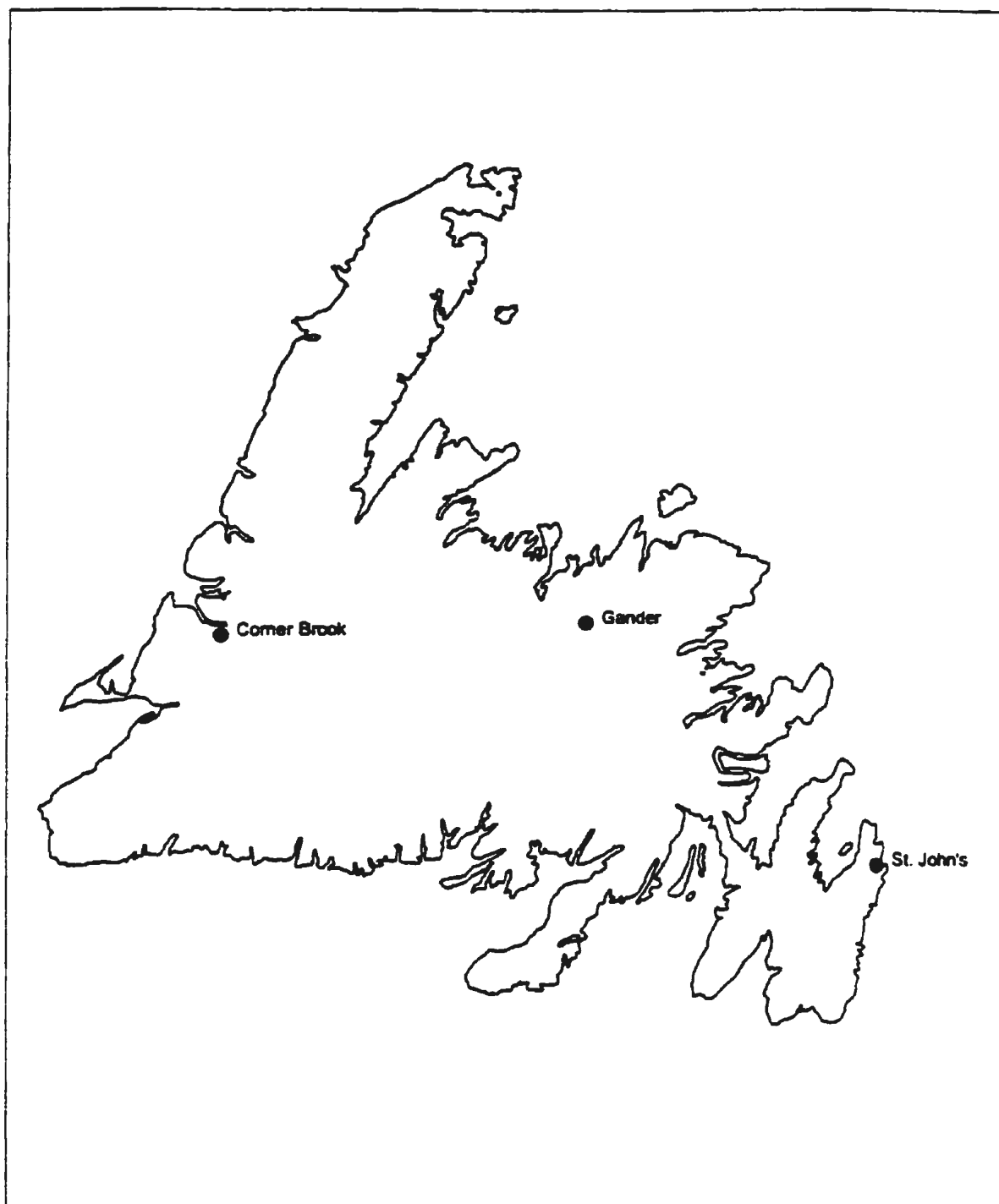


Figure 2.2 **Map of Newfoundland**

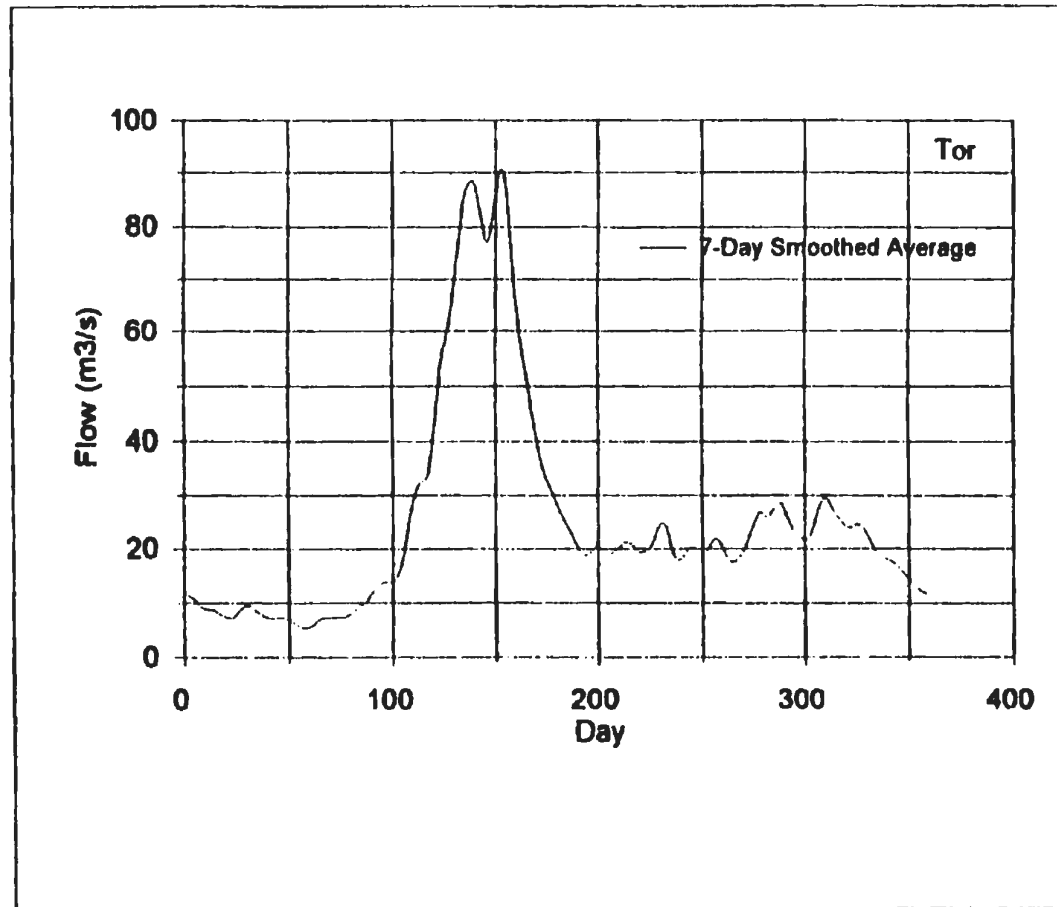


Figure 2.3a Torrent River at Bristol's Pool - 02YC001

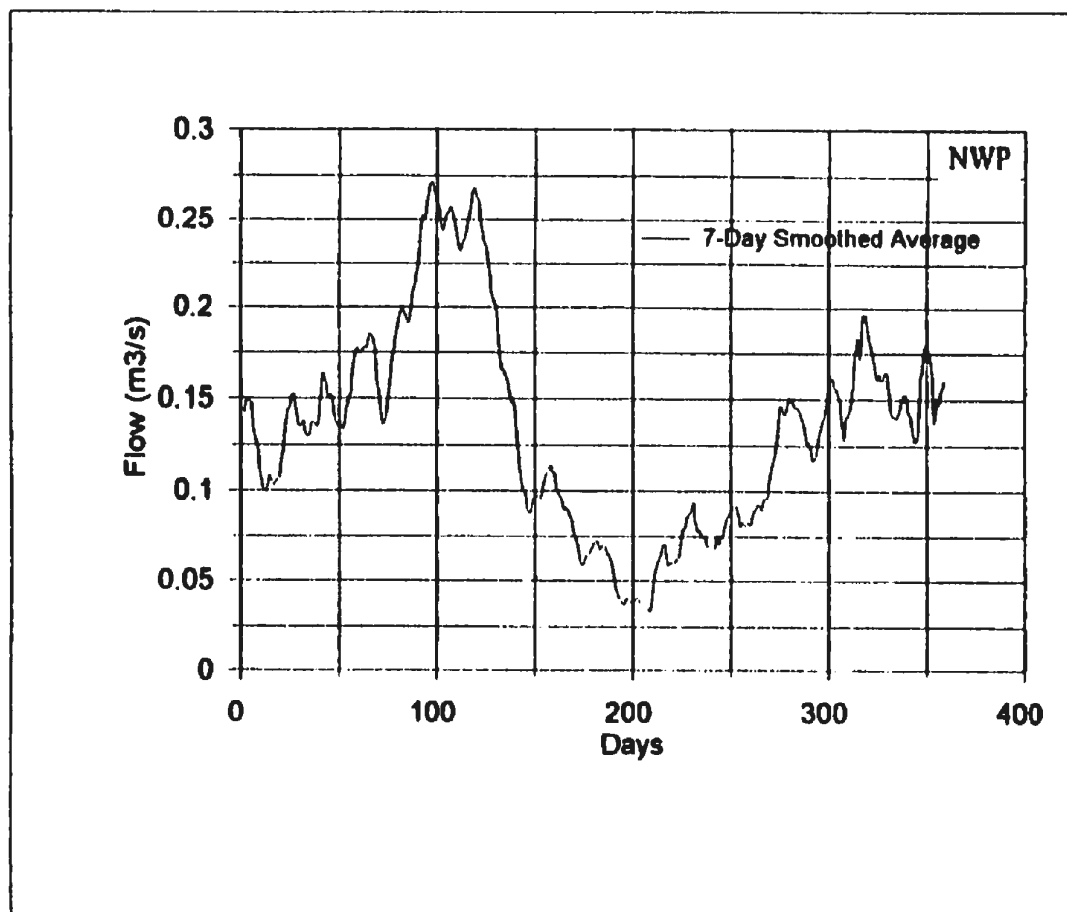


Figure 2.3b Northeast Pond River - 02ZM006

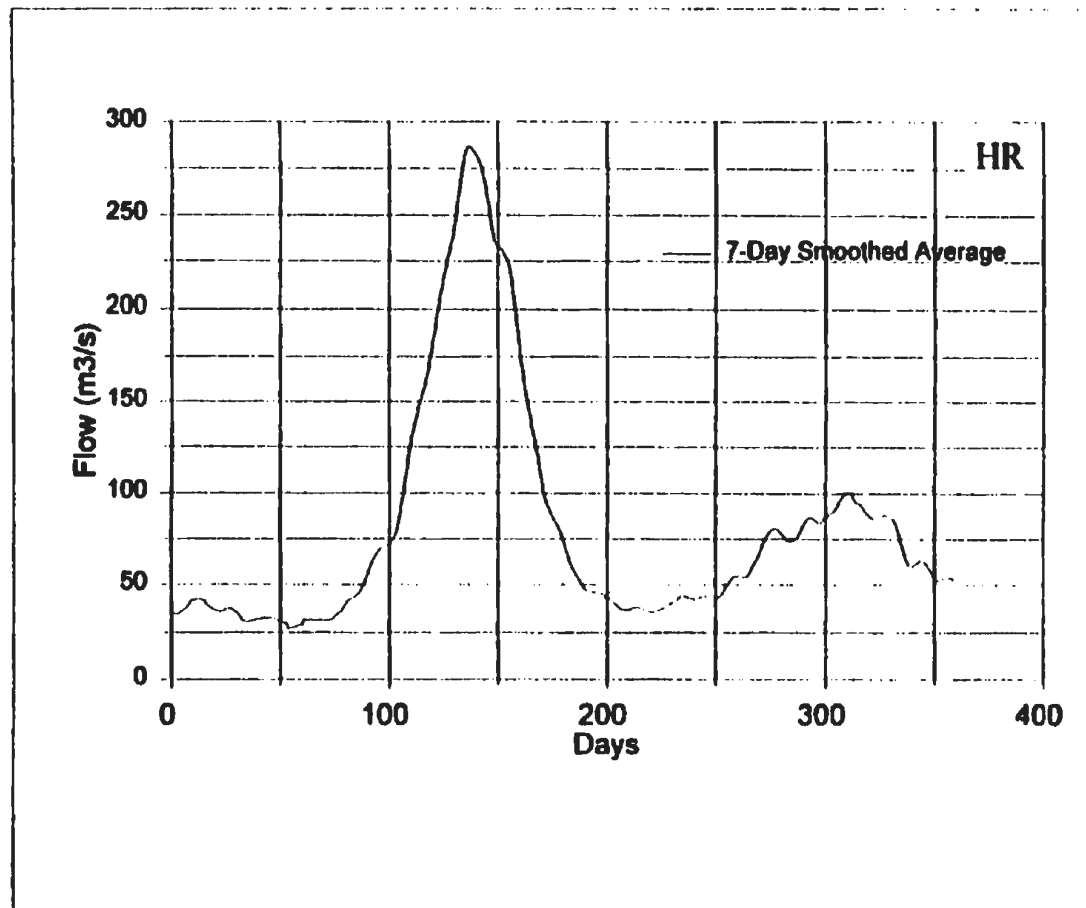


Figure 2.3c Humber River at Reidville - 02YL001

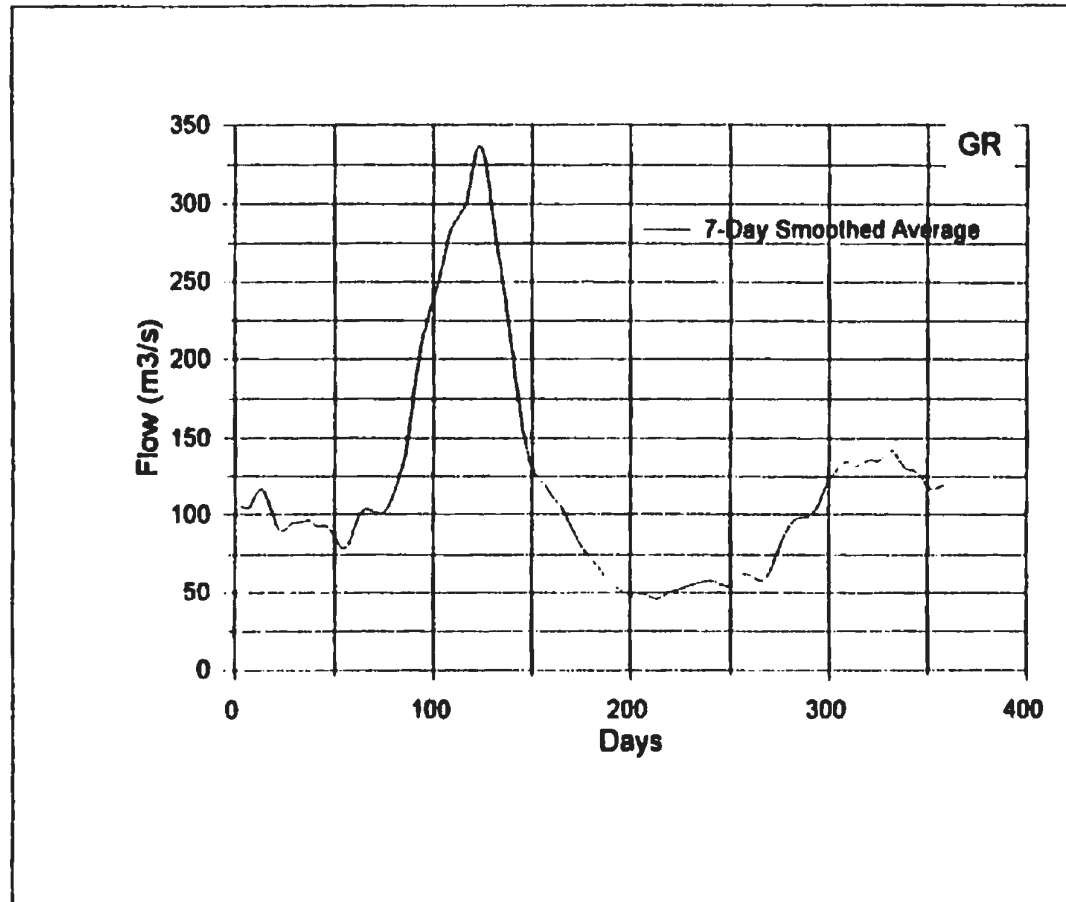


Figure 2.3d Gander River at Big Chute - 02YQ001

3.0 SINGLE STATION ANALYSIS

This chapter discusses the approaches to fitting frequency distributions to data sets for individual gauged streams. Analysis using the Annual Maximum Flow Series and Peak-Over-Threshold Series are compared and then each method is discussed in some detail. Probability distributions associated with each approach are discussed. Finally, the quantile estimators for each method are explained.

3.1 Peak-Over-Threshold versus Annual Maxima

When applying any statistical method, it is preferable that the maximum amount of raw data is incorporated into the analysis. By including more data, a statistical model can be made to fit nature more closely and to model the system under study through a wide range of conditions and states. However, the researcher is not always interested in the total behaviour of the system. In most cases, the results desired relate to the centre of the data and the upper and lower extremes. Models developed to predict probability of occurrence of streamflow maximums will generally not be improved by inputting data which relates to the low flow characteristics. This additional data does nothing to improve the behaviour of the model and increases the computational load. There is always a trade off between inclusiveness and utility.

As an example, a record of daily flows contains a large amount of data. Five years of data contains approximately 1826 data points. As one can see from Figure 3.1, there is a lot of information in the data set, however it is difficult to make this information meaningful in terms of peak flow events.

The Annual Maximum Flow, AMF, series excludes everything except the maximum flow for a given year. Any flow events within the year with magnitude less than the annual maximum are discarded. This data may be used to construct models which estimate probability of occurrence of future flood magnitudes. The disadvantage of this method is that multiple events in any year may be higher than the maximum in another year, but these events are discarded if lower than the annual maximum. The advantage is that it is simple to extract the annual maxima, and as one can see from Figure 3.2, the amount of data which must be manipulated is greatly reduced.

The Peak-Over-Threshold, POT, series is generated using a different approach than the annual maximum flow series. In the POT approach, all events which exceed a specific threshold, q_o , are counted as flood events and are included in the extracted data series. As shown in Figure 3.3, this can produce a greater number of events than the AMF series while keeping the amount of data manageable. In addition, by proper selection of q_o , the modeller may include more events which are more representative of peak flow conditions than would be available using the AMF approach. As mentioned above, the AMF method may discard significant events which may be included in analysis using a POT approach. The use of more data, and the use of data which more directly

reflect peak flow conditions, should result in improved fit of flood quantile estimators. However, the idea that more data are necessarily better is not always true. In some cases the AMF approach produces smaller estimate variability than the POT approach. (NERC, 1975)

Where there is a scarcity of streamflow data, the researcher is faced with a problem. How does one estimate the probability of future events with only a limited knowledge of what has gone before? The solution to this problem, in some cases, may lie in a more intensive examination of the data which does exist. It is possible that additional information has been suppressed by the application of methods like AMF, which excludes all but the maximum event in any given year. An alternative approach like the POT method, which extracts more information from the available data, may allow a researcher to better fit a probability distribution to the streamflow series. Thus, peak-over-threshold based estimation procedures may be useful in estimating floods when there is a limited amount of data (Ashkar, 1994).

The main strength of POT models in comparison to AMF is that, by appropriate selection of the threshold they allow a better inclusion of events which are to be considered floods (Ashkar, 1994). Taesombut and Yevjevich (1978) suggested that some of the problems of short streamflow records could be overcome by the consideration of all the flood peaks above a carefully set threshold. The estimates generated from POT series should be subject to lesser uncertainty than

those generated from AMF data if the threshold is selected properly (Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978).

POT thresholds are usually selected to include a greater number of events than would be produced by the AMF method. Generally the fit of POT models is better than AMF for low quantiles, and is known to deteriorate at higher quantiles where the threshold is selected too low (Wang, 1991). Care should be exercised in the use of the POT method to derive quantile estimates for events with high return periods (NERC, 1975). POT outcomes may depart significantly from those developed using AMF series.

Where the threshold is selected to produce an average of one flood per year, equivalent to the AMF method, the POT model and AMF model have similar efficiency for high quantile estimation (Wang, 1991). In addition, for long records the estimate produced from POT and AMF series will tend to converge.

3.2 Annual Maxima Models

In the AMF approach, a probability distribution is fitted to the series of annual maximum flows. This allows one to predict the probability of occurrence of a given flood magnitude. The series of annual maximum flow events is generally assumed to be independent and stationary (Bobée and

Rasmussen, 1995). The independence of individual flood events in the series makes sense, since most of these events are separated by substantial time periods. A number of tests are also available to test the data series for serial correlation or trend. If a serial correlation or trend is detected in the data, the fundamental assumptions of the probability model are violated and measures must be taken to model the data differently.

A number of probability distributions have been proposed as models for flood frequency. Some distributions are better at modelling the behaviour of the data within the range of the data set, and some distributions are better at modelling the estimated values outside the known data (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). In this thesis, the focus is on prediction of flood quantiles, most of which are outside the known data. A number of models have been discussed in literature and some have been specifically developed for the purpose of predicting frequency of occurrence of flood flows. Most notable among the models used for flood frequency analysis are the Three Parameter Log-normal (3LN), Generalized Extreme Value (GEV), Gumbel, Wakeby, and Log-Pearson. All of these models have relative advantages and disadvantages.

In *Regional Flood Frequency Analysis for the Island of Newfoundland* (Beersing, 1990), the annual maxima series was modelled using the best fitting of the GEV and 3LN. Of the thirty-nine stations considered, the GEV model had the best fit for eighteen stations, and the 3LN best fit the other twenty-one (Beersing, 1990). The results for both models were very close, within five

percent, and using the criteria of that study, either model would have made an adequate fit (Beersing, 1990). In this thesis, results of the 3LN and GEV fit to the annual maximum flow series are used for comparison to the results of peak-over-threshold modelling. The application of these distributions is explained in the following two sections.

3.2.1 Lognormal Distribution

The two parameter Log-normal, 2LN, and three parameter Log-normal, 3LN, models are adaptations which allow the use of the Normal, or Gaussian, distribution to predict flood quantiles. The Three Parameter Log-normal distribution has been used extensively throughout Canada and the United States (ACH, 1989). The model is well understood and works reasonably well for many flood series.

Normal distribution curves may be completely described by two parameters, their mean and variance. However, the familiar bell shaped curve of the Normal distribution has a range along the x-axis described by $-\infty < x < \infty$, while most hydrologic phenomena have a lower bound of zero (R. L. Bras, 1990). To overcome the inconsistency between the data and the distribution, the data may be transformed into logarithmic space. In the 2LN distribution, a new transformed variable is developed, $y = \ln(x)$, and for the 2LN model the two parameters are the mean and variance of the transformed variable. Although this transformation resolves the issue of the lower bound, a

better fit may generally be obtained by the introduction of a third parameter which modifies the position of the data prior to transforming it into logarithmic space. In the 3LN distribution, the new transformed variable is $y = \ln(x - \xi)$, and for the 3LN model the three parameters are the lower bound ξ , and the mean and variance of the transformed variable.

For positively skewed data the parameter ξ , is a lower bound which may be estimated from the x-data using a formula given in Maidment (1992):

$$\xi = \frac{x_{\max}x_{\min} - x_{\text{median}}^2}{x_{\max} + x_{\min} - 2x_{\text{median}}} \quad (3)$$

This process works well for positively skewed data. However, the 3LN distribution does not work well for negatively skewed data. When the data are negatively skewed the formula standard deviation (σ_x), and skew (g_1) of the x-values. The second step is to solve the foll for the transformed y-values changes to $y = \ln(\xi - x)$ and ξ becomes a positive upper bound. A more general method for derivation of the lower or upper bound using method of moments estimators is elaborated by Pilon and Harvey (1994), and is preferable to the estimator given by Maidment (1992) when data may be negatively skewed. The first step is to obtain the mean (μ_x), owing equation for c:

$$c^3 + 3c - g_1 = 0 \quad (4)$$

In most applications the x-values are positively skewed. Following Pilon and Harvey (1994), the lower bound may be estimated for positively skewed x-values using Equation 5.

$$\xi = \mu_x - \frac{\sigma_x}{c} \quad (5)$$

Where x-values are negatively skewed, the upper bound may be estimated using Equation 6.

$$\xi = \mu_x + \frac{\sigma_x}{c} \quad (6)$$

The transformed variable $y = \ln(x - \xi)$ or $y = \ln(\xi - x)$, has a range $-\infty < y < \infty$, consistent with the Normal distribution, which has a probability density distribution which is effectively described by Equation 7:

$$f(y) = \frac{1}{\sigma_y \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y - \mu_y}{\sigma_y}\right)^2\right) \quad (7)$$

Within the transformed space one can find μ_y , the sample mean and σ_y , the sample standard deviation of y . Although a simple equation for the cumulative distribution function is not available, it is easy to estimate the probability of non-exceedence of any y - value by use of the standard deviate $z = (y - \mu_y) / \sigma_y$, and standard tables for the calculation of cumulative probability for the Normal distribution.

3.2.2 Generalized Extreme Value Distribution

The Generalized Extreme Value, GEV, distribution has also been applied with success in most regions of Canada. The GEV type distributions are divided into three classes corresponding to the shape parameter, k . (Pilon and Harvey, 1994).. If $k < 0$ the distribution is a Frechet's Type II, EV2, if $k = 0$ it is a Gumbel Type I, EV1, and if $k > 0$ it is a Weibull Type III, EV3 (Martins and Stedinger, 2000). The k -value is generally in the range $-0.6 < k < 0.6$ (Pilon and Harvey, 1994). The cumulative probability distribution function is effectively described by Equation 8:

$$P(x) = e^{-[1 - \frac{k}{a}(x - \xi)]^{1/k}} \quad (8)$$

This can be seen to be equivalent to the equation describing the Poisson-Pareto distribution used with the POT series in later sections.

The derivation of the parameters of the GEV is somewhat more complex than for the 3LN, and distribution parameters are typically estimated using probability weighted moments. The distribution is described by three parameters: ξ , is a bound or location parameter, α is a scale parameter, and k the shape parameter. In a paper on the Pareto distribution, Rosbjerg et.al. (1992), indicated that method of moments estimators were as efficient as others for parameters of the GEV and Pareto distributions. Using method of moments, the scale parameter α , and the shape parameter k , may be estimated as shown in Equations 9 and 10 respectively.

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\sigma^2} + 1 \right) \quad (9)$$

$$k = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\sigma^2} - 1 \right) \quad (10)$$

If $k=0$, the distribution is defined as a two parameter EV1, or Gumbel Distribution. If k is less than zero then the distribution is an EV2 and the lower bound ξ , is defined by equation 12. If k is greater than zero then the distribution is defined as an EV3 and the upper bound ξ , is defined by Equation 11.

$$\xi = \mu + \alpha / k \quad (11)$$

Alternately, the parameters may be estimated using L-moments or maximum likelihood estimators.

In the L-moment approach the value of k is estimated first (Martins and Stedinger, 2000).

$$k = 7.859z + 2.9554z^2 \quad (12)$$

and

$$z = 2 / (\tau_3 + 3) - \ln 2 / \ln 3 \quad (13)$$

where

$$\tau_3 = \lambda_3 / \lambda_2 \quad (14)$$

and λ_1 , λ_2 , and λ_3 are the L-moment estimators. A number of methods are available for estimating the λ_i values and are discussed in depth in Pilon and Harvey (1994) and Martins and Stedinger (2000). Once k has been calculated, the other parameters are calculated easily.

$$\alpha = \lambda_2 k / \{(1 - 2^{-k}) \Gamma(1 + k)\} \quad (15)$$

$$\xi = \lambda_1 + \alpha \{\Gamma(1 + k) - 1\} / k \quad (16)$$

GEV parameter estimates using method of moments or L-moments have both been found satisfactory by a number of researchers (Martins and Stedinger, 2000). Maximum likelihood estimators, MLE's, have also been used to estimate GEV parameters but have performed poorly for small samples (Martins and Stedinger, 2000).

3.3 Peak-over-threshold Approach

3.3.1 Setting the Threshold

The first critical decision in the design of a POT model is the selection of a threshold value. Some researchers select the threshold, q_0 , based on physical constraints which determine whether or not an event is relevant. Other researchers have indicated that the threshold should be selected to produce a preselected recurrence rate for flood events. Still others have suggested selecting the threshold to produce a POT series which has characteristics of the distribution used to model it.

High thresholds are those which produce average peak recurrence rate of less than one event per year, extracting less peaks than would be contained in the AMF series. For high thresholds, the quality of low quantile estimates will tend to deteriorate, but the quality of high quantile estimates may improve slightly (Wang, 1991). The improvement in high quantile estimates is limited, and where short data records are being studied it is difficult to justify using less than one peak per year. In *Hydrology of Floods in Canada* (ACH, 1989), and in the work of Taesombut and Yevjevich (1978), a minimum of 1.65 peaks per year is recommended for POT series. High threshold series are not considered in this thesis.

Low thresholds produce large mean annual recurrence rates. The difficulty with low thresholds is that independence of peak events may be compromised. In addition, additional peaks introduced by lowering the threshold correspond to events with a high probability of occurrence. These events contain less information related to flood events which have a relatively low probability of occurrence. Thus, the calculation load is increased with no increase in model performance.

Some researchers argue that q_0 should be selected based on real physical conditions of the stream (Caissie & El-Jabi, 1991b). These physical constraints may include bank-full conditions, hydraulic capacity of the stream, percentage of mean flow or other parameters. This approach produces a series of events which can be identified as floods, but the POT series produced may not be amenable to statistical treatment.

Other researchers adopt an approach where an average annual rate of exceedance, λ , is preset and q_0 is adjusted to produce this value of λ . In general, the base is selected low enough that at least one event in each year is included. Taesombut and Yevjevich (1978) found that where $\lambda \geq 1.65$, the results of models constructed from POT series had less variance than those from AMF series.

Cassie and El-Jabi (1991b) suggested using the mean to variance ratio of flood recurrence to set q_0 . Assuming a Poisson arrival process for flood recurrence, $\lambda/\sigma^2 = 1$, where σ^2 is the variance in

recurrence rate. Because it is generated from the data, this threshold setting method has the advantage of being somewhat more robust and less arbitrary than the preceding two. However, in using this approach significant numbers of iterations may be required to obtain a threshold which satisfies the $\lambda=\sigma^2$ criteria, and the $\lambda=\sigma^2$ criteria may be satisfied at thresholds which produce very high or very low recurrence rates. Some judgement may be required on the part of the researcher to determine if the threshold selected using this method will produce the type of data series desired.

3.3.2 Selecting Independent Peaks

One major concern of users of peak-over-threshold analysis, is that the sequence of events extracted might be dependent since some peaks may occur on the recession limb of a prior event (Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978). However, for the proper application of most statistical models, each event must be separate and distinct. A variety of methods have been proposed to ensure the independence of events.

Ashkar (1994) set two criteria for independent flood peaks:

- (1) Two consecutive peaks must be separated by at least seven days;
- (2) The flow between two consecutive peaks must drop below a specified fraction (50%) of the lesser of the two peaks.

Taesombut and Yevjevich (1978) suggested the Water Resources Council guideline:

- (1) Five day separation plus the natural logarithm of the drainage area in square miles;**
- (2) The flow between two consecutive peaks must drop below 75% of the lower of the two peaks.**

For the purposes of this thesis, two criteria were used to exclude dependant peaks:

- (1) a minimum seven-day separation;**
- (2) at least one intervening daily maximum flow below 50% of the lesser of the two peaks.**

As stated earlier, groundwater effects on flood flows are limited in Newfoundland because the soil layer is typically thin till over bedrock (Richter, 1994). Thus, the recession limb of flood events is fairly short, and where flows have dropped below 50% of the lower of the two peaks, there is reasonable security in assuming that the effects of the prior event are insignificant in the development of the second. If the threshold is taken adequately high and the criteria for independence applied as given above, the assumption that individual peaks are independent events should be a reasonable one.

3.3.3 Modelling Recurrence Distribution

The second major decision in applying the POT methodology is the distribution selected for modelling recurrence of flood events. This has generally been done with a Poisson recurrence model, but a variety of tenable distributions have been proposed for recurrence (Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978). Common recurrence distributions are shown in Table 3.1.

Flood peaks may be defined as successes in a series of randomly spaced Bernoulli trials, each representing the occurrence of a peak (Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978). Where the events are independent, this implies a Poisson arrival process (Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978). Given a series of length N years, and an average exceedence rate of λ , the total number of expected peaks M is defined as $M=N\lambda$ (NERC, 1975).

For a Poisson process, λ defines the value of the mean and variance of the distribution. Generally this follows the formula of Equation 17:

$$p(x) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \quad (17)$$

where $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Which, considering the probability of exceedence any number of times $P(1,2, \dots n)$, in a period T , gives:

$$P(1,2,\dots,\infty)=1-e^{-\lambda} \quad (18)$$

This can then be manipulated simply to produce a probability of non-exceedence: the probability that no flow will exceed a given threshold (NERC 1975):

$$P(0) = 1-P(1,2,\dots,\infty) = e^{-\lambda} \quad (19)$$

3.3.4 Modelling Magnitude Distribution

We see above that one can produce a probability that flow does or does not exceed q_0 , but so far we do not know anything about the magnitude of these exceedence events. The size of the peaks above q_0 may be modelled using a continuous distribution such as the exponential (Taesombut and Yevjevich 1978). A variety of tenable distributions for magnitude have been proposed and are shown in Table 3.2.

Taesombut and Yevjevich (1978) found that the exponential distribution had the best fit for magnitude of exceedences. The exponential is the most frequently used distribution for modelling

exceedences and, since only one parameter is estimated, may lead to a more precise prediction of flood quantiles than a more complex model (Rosbjerg et.al., 1992).

A probability of non-exceedence for any given flood magnitude which has Poisson recurrence was described by Ekanayake and Cruise (1994):

$$P(x) = e^{-\lambda(1-F(x))} \quad (20)$$

where $x = q - q_0$ and $F(x)$ is the distribution of the magnitude of flood exceedences. If $F(x)$ follows the standard form of the exponential distribution, then

$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-x/\beta} \quad (21)$$

where β equals μ , the mean of the x values. This may be substituted into Equation 20,

$$P(x) = e^{-\lambda e^{-x/\beta}} \quad (22)$$

which yields the probability of non-exceedence or cumulative distribution function for an event of magnitude x . This model, which looks at a peak-over-threshold series as having a Poisson arrival process and exponential magnitude distribution, may be referred to as the PED model. The results

of the PED model follow the same shape as the Gumbel Distribution used to model AMF series (NERC, 1975).

Any distribution for magnitude may be satisfactorily substituted for $F(x)$ if it satisfies the data.

Ashkar (1994) described the Pareto distribution as:

$$F(x) = 1 - \left(1 - \frac{kx}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{1}{k}} \quad (23)$$

Where α and k are the scale parameter and shape parameter respectively.

Rosbjerg et.al. (1992), expressed these parameters using the method of moments:

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \mu \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\sigma^2} + 1 \right) \quad (24)$$

$$k = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\mu^2}{\sigma^2} - 1 \right) \quad (25)$$

Where μ is the sample mean and σ^2 the sample variance of the magnitude of peak-over-threshold events. These method of moments estimators are simple to use, and were found to be as efficient as estimation by probability weighted moments (Rosbjerg et.al., 1992).

The Pareto distribution equation may be substituted into Equation 20 to give:

$$P(x) = e^{-\lambda(1 - \frac{kx}{\alpha})^{\frac{1}{k}}} \quad (26)$$

The advantage of the Pareto distribution is its flexibility and ease of use. The distribution parameters are easily obtained and should produce more consistently reliable results than less flexible single parameter models. This model, with a Poisson arrival process and a Pareto magnitude distribution, may be referred to as the PPD model, and follows the GEV Distribution as used to model flood quantiles for the AMF series.

3.4 Quantile Estimators

By manipulating the form of the cumulative distribution function for the flood frequency distributions, equations may be developed to produce flood quantile estimates. Where the data extracted as peaks over threshold is assumed to have a Poisson recurrence distribution and an Exponential magnitude distribution, the estimate of the flood with probability of exceedence $P=1/T$, is given by Equation 27:

$$Q(T) = q_0 + \beta \ln \lambda + \beta \ln T \quad (27)$$

Where the data extracted as peaks over threshold is assumed to have a Poisson recurrence distribution and a Pareto magnitude distribution, the estimate of the flood with probability of exceedence $P=1/T$, is given by Equation 28:

$$Q(T)=q_0+\frac{a}{k}[1-(\frac{1}{\lambda T})^k] \quad (28)$$

Where data is extracted as a series of annual maxima, and is assumed to have a 3LN distribution, the quantile estimator of the flood with probability of exceedence $P=1/T$, is given by Equation 29 (Maidment, 1992):

$$x_T=\xi+e^{(\mu_y+\sigma_y z_T)} \quad (29)$$

where y is the transformed variable, μ_y is the mean of y , σ_y is its standard deviation, and ξ is a lower bound parameter described earlier. The constant z_T is the normal score corresponding to the probability of non-exceedence for a given return period “ T .” These z -scores may be obtained from standard tables.

Where data is extracted as a series of annual maxima, and is assumed to have a GEV distribution, the quantile estimator of the flood with probability of exceedence $P=1/T$, is given by Equation 30 (Maidment 1992):

$$X_T = \xi + \frac{\alpha}{k} [1 - (-\ln(1 - 1/T))^k] \quad (30)$$

As mentioned previously, the GEV and 3LN distributions were found to have similar efficiency in fitting the AMF series for Newfoundland (Beersing 1990). The GEV model and 3LN model will be used in this thesis for comparison to the PED model and PPD model.

Table 3.1 Recurrence Distributions for Peaks over Threshold Model (after Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978).

| Distribution | Parameters | Comments |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Poisson | λ | most popular approach |
| Mixed Poisson | λ_1, λ_2 | accounts for seasonal variation |
| Hyper Poisson | λ, θ | |
| Negative Binomial | r | |
| Mixed Geometric | $\theta_1, \theta_2, \gamma, \alpha$ | |
| Non-parametric | $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots$ | based on data |

Table 3.2 Magnitude Distributions for Peaks over Threshold Model (after Taesombut and Yevjevich, 1978).

| Distribution | Parameters | Comments |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Exponential | β | Simplest |
| Gamma | β, γ | |
| Pearson Type III | X_0, β, γ | |
| Weibull | a, b | |
| Mixed Exponential | β_1, β_2 | |
| Pareto | k, α | Flexible, includes exponential as a special case |
| Normal | μ, σ | |
| Non-parametric | $a_1, a_2, a_3 \dots$ | Based on data |

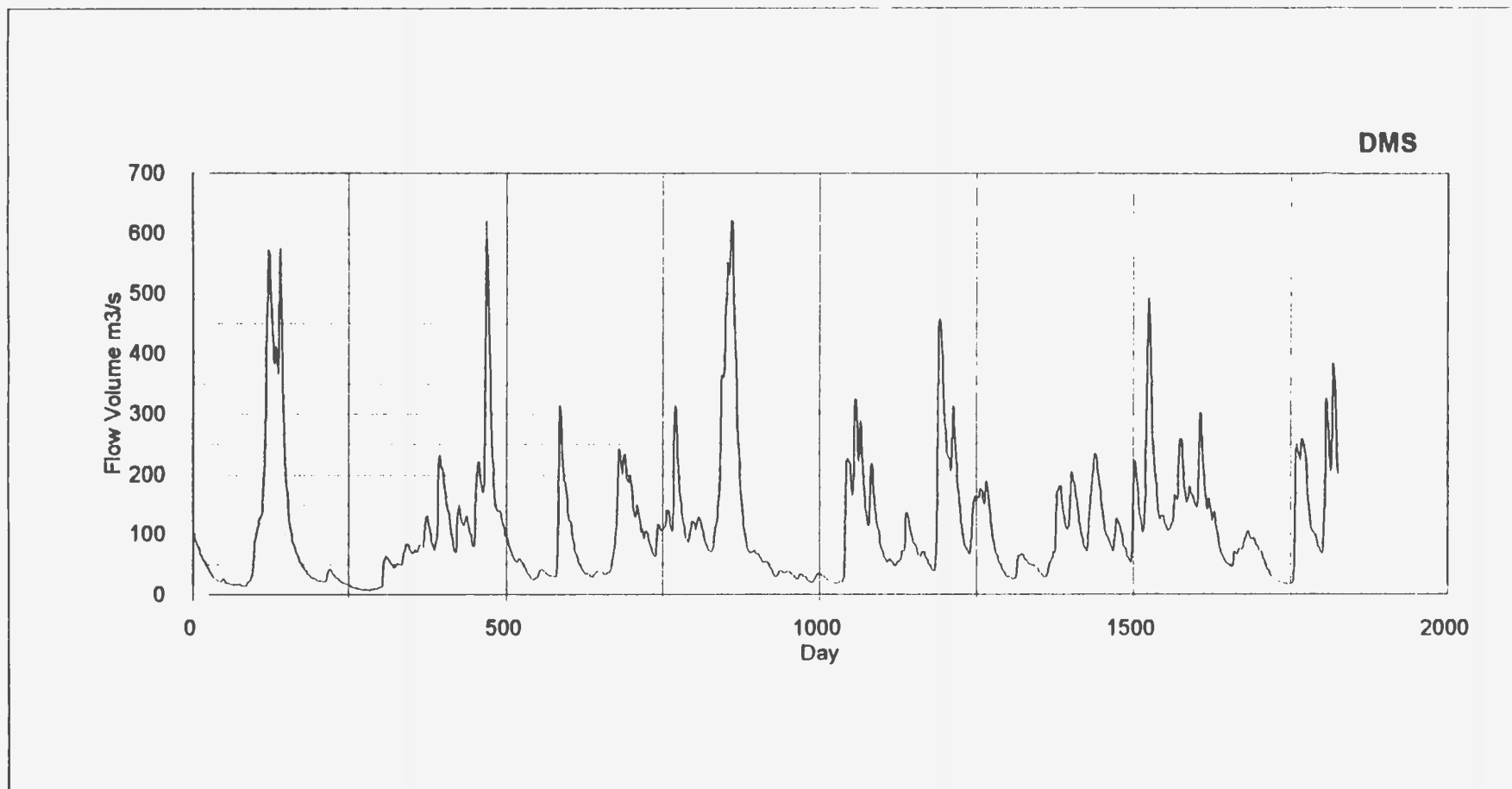


Figure 3.1 Daily Maxima Series

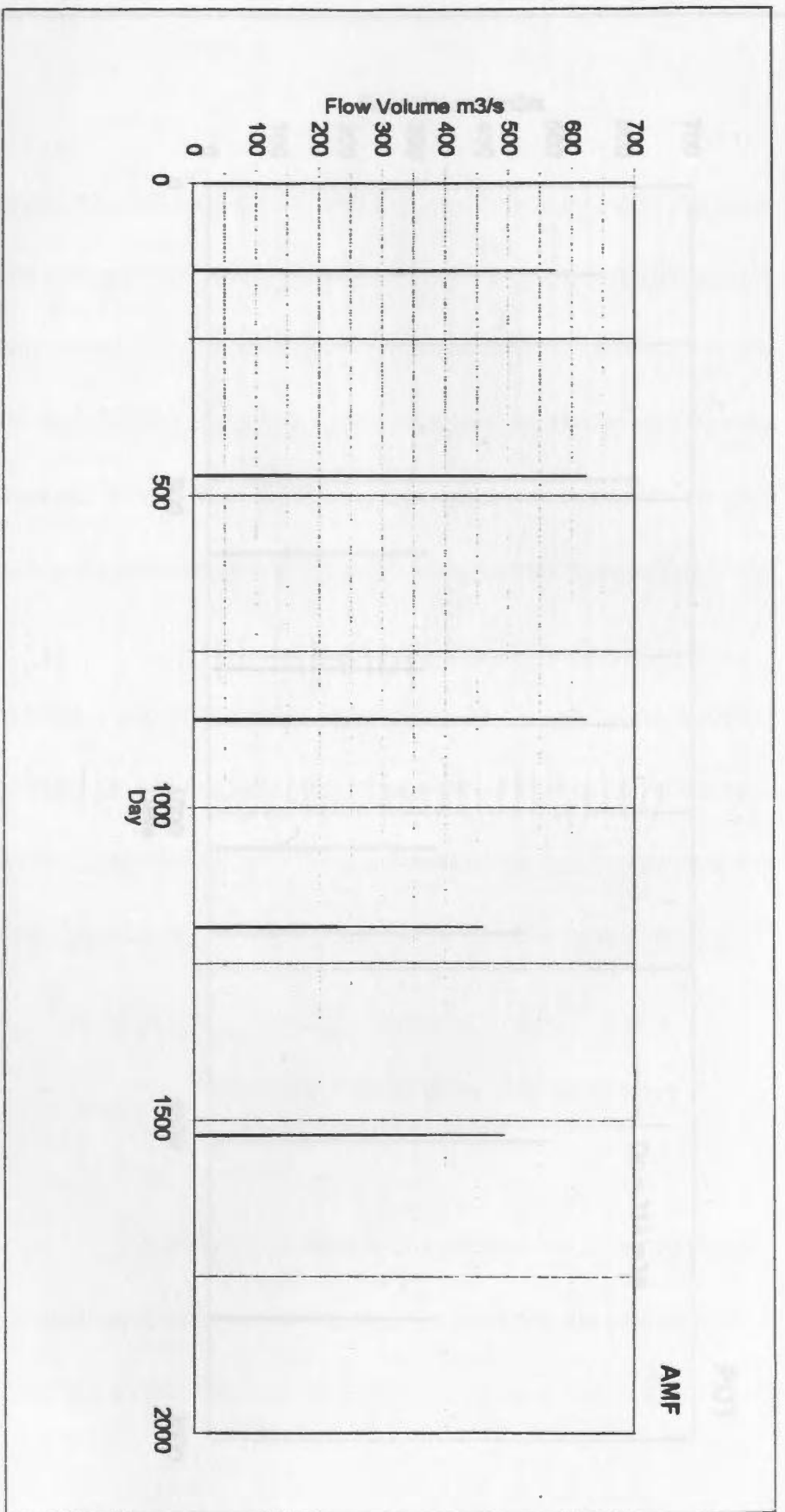


Figure 3.2 Annual Maxima Series

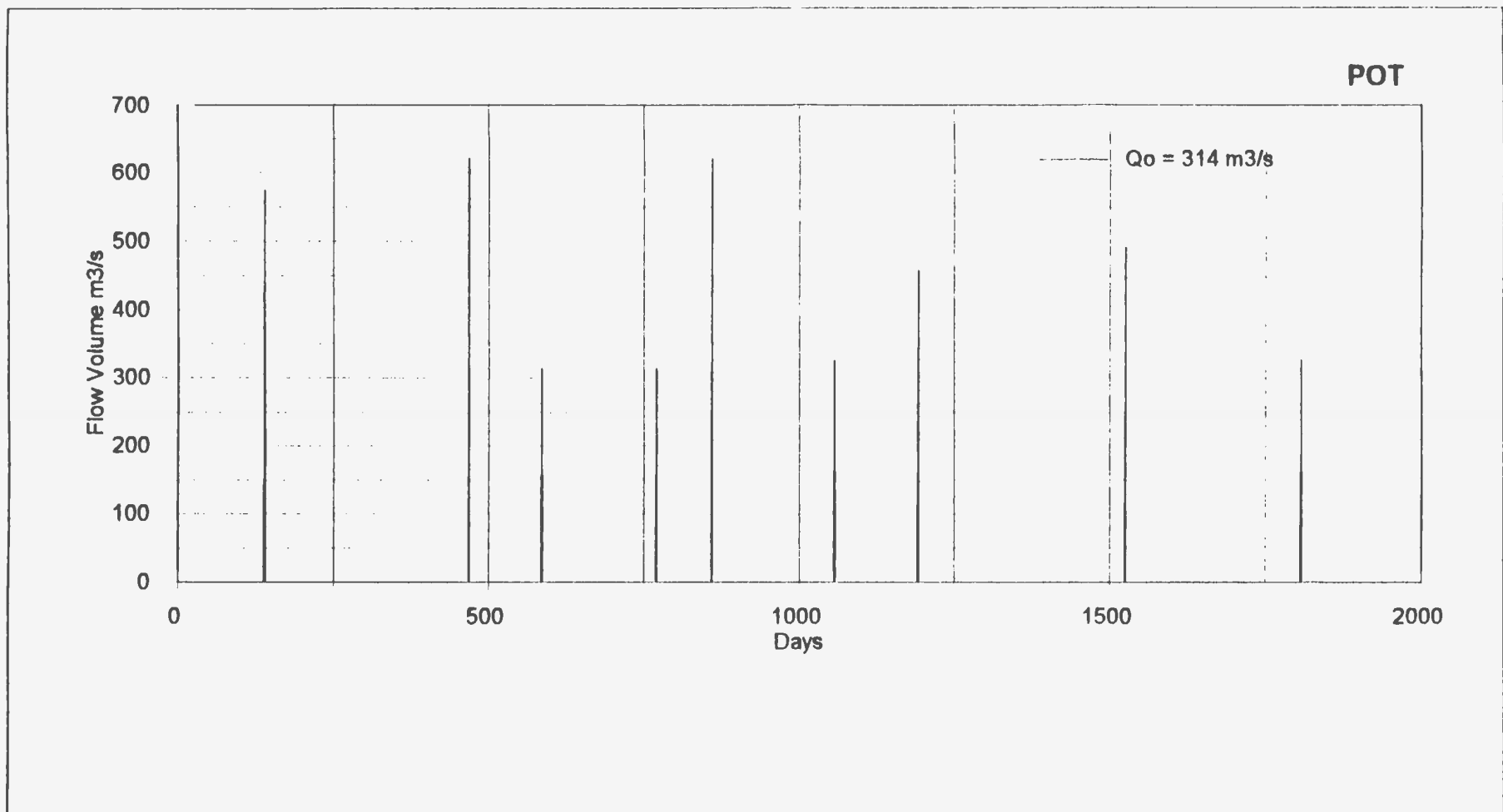


Figure 3.3 Peak-Over-Threshold Series

4.0 REGIONALISATION

In this chapter the method of regionalisation is discussed. Reasons for using the regional approach are given, and methods for determining regional groupings are considered. Previous regional delineations for Newfoundland are also discussed.

4.1 Reasons for Regional Analysis

In simplest terms, regional analysis assumes that one stream in a region will have hydrologic behaviour similar to other streams in that region. Regional flood frequency analysis of streamflow data involves grouping streams with similar hydrologic properties into regions and developing regional equations which estimate flood quantiles from basin descriptors.

The effective estimation of flood quantiles for a gauged stream may require single station analysis, regional analysis, or a combination of both. Where long streamflow records exist, the flood quantiles predicted by single station analysis may be excellent. In fact these estimates may be superior to regional estimates (ACH 1989). However, where streamflow records are short, the errors in single station quantile estimates are correspondingly large. There are problems with identifying the distribution which best fits the data and with estimating the parameters for the

distribution (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). In these cases, the quality of quantile estimates can be improved by the application of regional equations (ACH 1989).

To estimate flood frequency for ungauged basins a regional approach must be used (Caissie & El-Jabi, 1991a). Obviously, since no gauge data exists for the study stream, inferences based on the behaviour of adjacent gauged streams are necessary to make predictions about the behaviour of the stream under study. This is true of both statistical and deterministic models. For ungauged basins, any model which uses data from neighbouring basins is making an assumption of similar response between the study basin and its neighbours. The use of popular models like the rational method or SCS method assumes some level of homogeneity between the study basin and the basins used to calibrate those models.

Regional analysis is generally recognized as a powerful means to improve flood quantile estimates (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). There has been some resistance to the broad application of regional analysis. However, in Newfoundland, the local regulatory agency has encouraged local practitioners to adopt the RFFA of Beersing (1990). While this has met with widespread acceptance, the reality is that many practitioners apply this method without concern for the statistical nature of the approach or for the parameter boundaries discussed in the research. The method is often applied in a deterministic manner.

Of primary interest in this thesis, is the usefulness of regionalisation for the island of Newfoundland. If quantile estimates produced from four regional equations are not significantly superior to estimates based on a single region, then there is no benefit in regionalisation.

4.2 Region Delineation

The delineation of regions is a complex procedure. The usual approach is to group basins into areas with similar geographic, hydrologic, and climatic characteristics. Most research has relied on physical properties of basins to determine regional boundaries (Richter, 1994). Typical physical characteristics include location, elevation, topography, ground cover, and exposure to prevailing winds. However, the use of geographically contiguous regions has been criticized as being arbitrary (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). In any study of historical flow records, the statistical properties of these records must be given substantial weight when grouping the stations into hydrologically similar regions. A methodology for delineating similar regions should be based on both physical properties of the basins, and statistical analysis of basin response (Ashkar, 1994).

In practice, most regions are defined geographically, using a combination of physical characteristics and gauge record information. Regional boundaries may be defined loosely using physical parameters, then gauge statistics may be tested to determine if a basin should be a member of a region, or of some adjacent region. The purpose of these tests is to detect stations having flow

records which are not homogeneous with the general pattern for a region. When nonconforming stations are detected, the boundaries may be adjusted so that the stations are reassigned to a region with similar hydrologic response. Once regions have been delineated and stations tested for homogeneity, regional quantile estimations can be developed.

Within any homogeneous region, gauged stations should produce data which is consistent with other stations within the region. A variety of hydrologic parameters are commonly used to test for homogeneity including mean annual runoff per unit area, mean peak flow per unit area, and coefficient of variation or coefficient of standard error.

A popular statistic for testing regional homogeneity is the ratio of the ten-year flood quantile to the mean annual flood (Beersing, 1990). A variation of this is the ratio of the ten-year flood quantile to the two-year quantile. First the quantile ratio is calculated for each gauge in the region, then the summary statistics of mean and standard deviation of $Q(10)/Q(2)$ are calculated. Assuming that the data are normally distributed, the stations are tested against the supposition that all stations within a homogeneous region should produce results within some confidence interval set by the researcher; 95% is commonly used.

Other popular test statistics include the coefficient of standard deviation, CS, and coefficient of variation, CV. The coefficient of standard deviation for any flood quantile may be calculated as

the ratio of its standard deviation to that quantile's mean value. The use of this ratio allows comparison of standard deviation across basins of differing size across a region. The coefficient of variation is similarly calculated. However, testing for homogeneity with the coefficient of variation has been found to be a weak test which accepts homogeneity too often (Richter, 1994).

Some researchers have looked at methods of grouping basins in a data space which is not geographical (Richter, 1994). In some cases, basins in the same geographic area may exhibit very different streamflow behaviour. The set of all gauges in a study area may be grouped into regions according to a test parameter applied to gauge data. Some parameters used to derive station clusters include mean flow per unit area, quantile variation, skew and kurtosis (Richter, 1994).

The Region Of Influence, ROI, approach dispenses completely with geographic groupings (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). Each study site is treated as the centre of gravity of a multidimensional space in which vectors correspond to a variety of statistical or descriptive characteristics. These descriptive characteristics are weighted with respect to their influence on the central site (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). Distance in the multidimensional space is measured in terms of difference between characteristics of the central site and the regional sites, rather than physical distance.

Another alternative is cluster analysis. In this approach, characteristics are selected which are thought to relate the response at the study site to the behaviour at the gauge sites. Starting from

the study site and working in the same type of multidimensional space used in the ROI approach, gauge sites which are most similar are clustered to the study site until the difference in characteristics reaches a cutoff point.

In addition, some researchers have sought to group sites into regions based on the nature of the statistical description which best fits their flood frequency data (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995). A number of distribution characteristics including coefficient of variation and skew have been used as the basis for regional delineation. The use of various L-moments has gained some popularity among proponents of this method of regional grouping (Bobée and Rasmussen, 1995).

It must be understood that regional groupings based on statistical properties of basin response do not necessarily translate into geographical groupings. One additional problem with this approach is that statistical data is required to assign any stream under study to a non-geographic region and this data is unavailable for ungauged streams.

4.3 Hydrologic Regionalisation in Newfoundland

Caissie and El-Jabi (1991a), analysed records from fifteen (15) hydrometric stations, and treated Newfoundland as one homogeneous region. However, Newfoundland has varied landforms and climate influences. There may be some benefit to dividing the island into regions.

The Atlantic Development Board (1969) divided Newfoundland into four hydrologic regions: Avalon & Burin Peninsula, South & East Coast, West Coast and Great Northern Peninsula, and Northeast Coast.

In the DOE (1984) study *Regional Flood Frequency Analysis for the Island of Newfoundland*, the island was divided into two regions: North and South. This division was based on the causative factors behind peak flow events (DOE, 1984).

Beersing (1990) divided the island into four regions. This division was based on mean annual flow per unit area and time of occurrence of peak flows. The regions delineated also make sense from an examination of the topography and geography of the island. The Eastern Region comprises the Avalon and Burin Peninsulas. This area has generally low relief, and is subject to mixed weather produced by the confluence of the Gulf Stream and Labrador Current. The Central Region includes the central landmass of the province, and includes both coastal and non-coastal areas. This region's interior is less subject to oceanic effects and experiences greater extremes of cold and heat than coastal areas. The Northwest Region is defined by the Humber Valley and Northern Peninsula. This area is characterized by the large watershed of the Humber River, and Long Range Mountains and a coastal plain along the Northern Peninsula. The Southwest Region includes the southwest tip of the island. This area also has strong relief and may be subject to strong orographic

influences. In general, the Southwest is the first area affected by incoming storms as they move from the waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence onto the land.

Beersing (1990) used thirty nine (39) gauge records and divided the island into four homogeneous regions. Peak flow series were extracted using the AMF approach and flood quantiles were estimated using either the Three Parameter Lognormal Distribution or the Generalized Extreme Value Distribution. Regional quantile estimates were generated by regression on log-transformed data.

Richter (1994) investigated a variety of methods for delineating homogeneous hydrologic regions. This included analysis in non-geographic data space. Richter (1994) found that mathematically rigorous methods for region delineation did not significantly improve model outcomes when compared to the regions of Beersing (1990).

In this thesis, the regions delineated by Beersing (1990) were adopted as the initial regional divisions and were then tested for hydrologic homogeneity. The use of one region for the entire island was also evaluated. There are a number of methods available to determine the grouping of hydrologic stations into regions. A brief description of some of these methods has been provided in section 4.2 of this thesis. These approaches have been described somewhat exhaustively by Richter (1994). These methods were not applied in this work and as such, any further discussion

of the methods would be beyond the scope of this work. Details of the results of regional homogeneity testing are presented in Chapter 6 of this thesis. Briefly, the stations within each region are tested to see if they meet the criteria that the Q_{10}/Q_2 ratio for a station is within the 95% confidence interval for Q_{10}/Q_2 ratios described for the region's population.

This test may be compared to the popular test of Dalrymple (1960). Fill and Stedinger (1995) provided a critical appraisal of the Dalrymple test of regional homogeneity. Following Dalrymple (1960), they describe a hydrologically homogeneous region as one where flood flows when scaled by their mean $Q(T)/\mu$ are identically distributed. This implies that for any homogeneous region, all ratio $Q(T)/\mu$ should fall within some confidence interval which can be defined for that region. The test suggested by Dalrymple (1960) assumes a Gumbel probability distribution and thus the mean flood flow is equal to $Q(2.33)$. Essentially, for any station a return period value T is calculated based on the fit of $Q(10)$ to the distribution curve plotted for the region. This calculated T -value is compared to the Lower and Upper limits of the 95% confidence interval for T for record of length N .

In this thesis, the Q_{10}/Q_2 ratio is analogous to the $Q(T)/\mu$ ratio discussed by Fill and Sedinger (1995) and which forms the basis of the Dalrymple (1960) test. The testing of a station for acceptance within the confidence interval for this ratio is a valid test statistic which should produce results similar to the Dalrymple (1960) test and analogous approaches.

There are a number of papers of specific relevance in developing models for Newfoundland. The work of Caissie and El Jabi (1991a, 1991b) provided useful information on the development of truncation levels and regions for the island. However, they used a very small data set of only fifteen stations for the island and treated it as one region. In addition, the formula which they developed for truncation level did not perform well for the data analysed here. The work of Beersing (1990) was important in the selection of hydrologically homogeneous regions and in the analysis of AMF series. One criticism of the work of Beersing (1990), is that he extended a number of flow record artificially and thus may have reduced variability in some of his data sets. However, the hydrologic regions developed by Beersing have provided results as good as more rigorously defined regions (Richter, 1994). The work of Richter (1994) provides much valuable information on the hydrology of Newfoundland including regionalization and regional modelling of flows. Richter (1994) points out that the deficiencies in hydrologic input (rainfall) data for the island seriously impact on the development of accurate flow models. Indeed, regionalization is described as one method of overcoming this problem by grouping stations into regions with similar hydrologic input characteristics.

5.0 REGIONAL MODELLING

5.1 Parameters of Regional Models

In regional flood frequency analysis, the equations which relate flood magnitude to probability of occurrence are represented as functions of physical descriptors. Some of the possible basin descriptors are categorized and listed in categories in Table 5.1.

Any number of these parameters, $X_1 \dots X_n$, may be included in a regional model. A properly constructed model will incorporate only those parameters which add significant information to the outcomes. To be useful for regional peak flow models these physical parameters must have some basic properties:

1. They can be readily extracted from the information available for the basin
2. They must contain relevant information about the streamflow of the basin
3. It must be possible to express them as a numerical value

The objective is to create equations which will allow the user to compute flood quantiles for both gauged and ungauged streams within homogeneous regions. Many researchers have noted that

finding the proper basin characteristics to include in a regional model is more important than fitting the best model to those characteristics (Richter, 1994).

Some characteristics, such as basin geology, cannot be expressed satisfactorily as a numerical index (Richter, 1994). While an understanding of these characteristics and their interactions may give a researcher a much better understanding of the processes occurring within a drainage basin, they are of limited value when developing modelling equations.

Some parameters are commonly used in most models. Drainage area is included in almost all models, firstly because it seems logical to include it, and secondly because it is usually strongly correlated to streamflow magnitude.

Richter (1994) states that Riggs (1973) listed three physical descriptors (drainage area, the basin slope, percent lakes and swamps) and one climate descriptor (mean annual precipitation) as explaining most variability in basin response.

Caissie and El-Jabi (1991a) used drainage area, areas of lakes and swamps, area of forest, and drainage density as explanatory variables for estimating flood quantiles for Newfoundland streams.

Richter (1994) found that drainage area, area controlled by lakes and swamps, fraction of barren area, and distance of the basin from defined lines were the most important explanatory variables for estimating mean annual flow for ungauged Newfoundland streams.

In the DOE (1984) study five parameters were selected: drainage area, mean annual runoff, percent area controlled by lakes and swamps, shape factor, and latitude. One general model for the island and two regional models for the north and south regions were developed using combinations of these variables. The parameters of these models are listed in Table 5.2. The Mean Annual Runoff, MAR, occurs in all of the equations and is the most important variable after drainage area. However, Lye and Moore (1991) identified MAR as a problematic variable, because it had a very high influence on model output, it was difficult to estimate accurately, and it was derived using a parameter, DA, already included in the model. Beersing (1990) also felt that the use of MAR in these equations was problematic because equation results were very sensitive to MAR and the descriptor was difficult to obtain accurately for ungauged streams.

Richter (1994) discussed the use of Effective Precipitation, EffP, expressed as an average annual runoff depth over a basin, which is equivalent to MAR. This derived variable may be used as a proxy for precipitation input. There is an understandable desire to include precipitation input as an explanatory variable in a study of flow series. EffP and its analog, MAR, have been identified as very significant predictors of peak flow magnitudes. Where there is no base precipitation data or

data is very limited, a proxy variable may be introduced to represent this data. However, precipitation is a result of atmospheric processes, not basin processes. Where inferences are made about precipitation series from flow series data, special care must be taken to allow for the damping and amplifying effects which basin processes may generate.

Beersing (1991) selected different parameters for each of the four regions which he used. The parameters selected are listed in Table 5.3. In Newfoundland the influence of lakes and swamps can be quite significant in determining the flow regime of a stream. Both the area of lakes and swamps and the area controlled by these lakes and swamps are important. To provide a descriptor which represents both the area of lakes and swamps and their influence area, Beersing (1990) used a Lakes and Swamps Factor, LSF:

$$LSF = 1 + FACLS - \frac{FLSAR}{1 + FACLS} \quad (31)$$

Where FLSAR is the fraction of the drainage basin occupied by lakes and swamps, and FACLS is the area controlled by lakes and swamps.

Some techniques are available to select model variables prior to regression analysis. By selecting explanatory variables properly the amount of analysis can be reduced and problems such as cross-correlation can be avoided.

A simple analysis is done by generating multiple plots of basin variables against other basin variables. This technique was employed by Richter (1994), who provided an extensive set of plots. As expected, the magnitudes of the mean flood and average daily flow were strongly correlated to Drainage Area (DA). Slope (SLP) was positively correlated to flood magnitude. Richter (1994) indicated that Shape (SHP) also appeared to be significant.

Care must be used in interpreting these types of plots. The influence of some factors, notably drainage area, is dominant and may mask the influence of other factors (Richter, 1994). In general, the relationships of various descriptors tend to confirm the relationships put forward in other research. Flow magnitude is strongly correlated to drainage area, while the basin slope, the fraction of the area controlled by lakes and swamps and other basin characteristics have varying amounts of influence on flood magnitude.

5.2 Developing Models by Regression

Regional flood frequency models are commonly constructed by the techniques of linear and nonlinear regression. Software is readily available to perform both linear and non-linear regression. In general terms, all regression approaches construct a relationship between explanatory variables and outcomes and seek to minimize error. Error is defined as the difference between model outcomes and expected values.

By simple linear regression and multiple linear regression, flood quantiles for gauged basins may be related to physical descriptors of those basins. These regional quantile estimators must produce results which are consistent with the results of single station estimates within the region. Linear regression models represent results as having a straight-line relationship with their explanatory variables. The goal is to find an equation for a line that minimizes the sum of squared errors.

Equations from multiple linear regression on untransformed data take the form given in Equation 32. This form is not very popular for the study of hydrologic phenomena. Although it may produce usable results, this model form does not relate the physical parameters to each other in any meaningful way.

$$Q(T) = a_0 + a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 \dots \quad (32)$$

To make explanatory variable and outcomes more amenable to linear regression, a variety of transforms are used. With the data in the transformed space, models are constructed using linear regression, then transformed back into the real domain. One popular approach is the power transform, where all data is transformed by taking the logarithm. Inside the transformed log-space, the regression equations for estimating regional flood quantiles take the form given in Equation 33:

$$\ln(Q(T)) = \ln(a_0) + a_1 \ln(x_1) + a_2 \ln(x_2) + \dots \quad (33)$$

When the reverse transform is performed, the equation parameters are reorganized into a nonlinear form:

$$Q(T) = a_0 x_1^{a_1} x_2^{a_2} x_3^{a_3} \dots \quad (34)$$

Where $Q(T)$ is the expected flow for some return period T , a_i is a coefficient derived from multiple regression in log-space, and x_i is some physical parameter of the drainage basin. The derived values, $a_1 \dots a_n$, are only valid for the return period for which they were calculated.

The nonlinear relationship of Equation 34 is derived using linear regression. In this approach a nonlinear relationship is transformed such that it can be handled by linear means. Once the linear regression is performed, the equation may be transformed back to its original nonlinear form. The transformation of data in this manner distorts the model error. Errors and bias which are generated in the transformed space must also be un-transformed for analysis of how well the equations fit the data.

Nonlinear regression resolves the problem of transformation generated bias. This method, like linear regression, attempts to minimize the sum of the squared error, where error is measured as the distance of the data from the model curve. Because the equations being manipulated in the regression are not linear, more computing effort is required than for linear regression techniques.

Nonlinear regression requires that you initially define the expected relationship between the result and explanatory variables. Because of this, nonlinear regression requires a deeper initial understanding of the interaction of results and explanatory variables. Generally, the approximated model equation is of the form given in Equation 34. The model is then fitted to the data using the estimated parameters, and by repeated adjustment of model parameters error is minimized. The output values finally arrived at may depend to some extent on the parameter values set initially. To compensate for this it is important that the initial values make sense on a physical basis. Variables which are initially assigned strong positive relationships must have a strong physical explanation for this relationship. This understanding of how the variable relate to the outcome is important, because relationships developed using this method will not produce an equation which can be plotted and confirmed by visual examination.

5.3 Regional Estimators

Given that flood quantiles have been modelled by analysis of gauged basins, and that adequate physiographic information is available for these gauged basins, there are two approaches which may be taken in the development of regional quantile estimators:

1. **Regression on Quantiles:** For each region and each return period, T , develop equations which correlate recurrence probability and flood quantile magnitude based on hydrologic and physiographic data.

2. **Index Flood:** For each region, develop an index flood equation based on hydrologic and physiographic data. Develop a rating curve which correlates flood quantile magnitude to the index flood.

The disadvantage of the first approach, regression on quantiles, is that a large number of equations must be developed. Each equation can only be applied for its specific return period and its specific region. If a practitioner needs quantile estimates for return periods other than those given, he must interpolate. The advantage of this approach is that variation in basin response for different size events is well modelled.

In the second approach, the index flood equation for a region is developed based on the relationship of an index flood to basin physiographic characteristics. Flood quantiles are described by their relationship to this index flood (Caissie & El-Jabi, 1991a). For an index flood to perform well for a region, the ratio of flood quantiles, $Q(T)$, to the index flood must be consistent throughout the region.

In regional models based on the series of annual maxima, the index flood is often taken as the mean annual flood. Richter (1994) refers to this value as Q_{avgfd} , and indicates that it is frequently used as an index flood in regional flood frequency analysis.

Determination of the index flood is complicated by the use of POT series. The mean annual flood is not equal to the average value of all the POT peaks. In addition, the average recurrence rate, λ , may not be constant from station to station. For an individual station, where the model is PED the average annual flood can be estimated from the model parameters by using Equation 35 (NERC, 1975). This approach produces results very similar to those produced using the series of annual maxima.

$$\mu = q_o + \beta \ln \lambda + 0.5772\beta \quad (35)$$

An alternative to using the mean annual flood or similar average flow, is to use a low return period flood quantile as the index flood. The use of the estimate of the two-year return flood, $Q(2)$, is an example of this approach. For the PED series, the estimate of $Q(2)$ should be as good as the estimate produced by Equation 35, since this equation is of the same form as the estimator for $Q(2)$.

The disadvantage of the index flood approach is that errors in estimating the index flood equation will be carried through into quantile estimates. Richter (1994) indicates that errors in estimates of the index flood are a large source of error in estimates of flood quantiles. Variations in basin response to events of differing sizes may be poorly modelled. The main advantage is that calculations are very much simplified. Caissie and El-Jabi (1991a) felt that the regression on

quantiles approach was superior to the index flood method in most regions. For Newfoundland, however, the results of index flood and regression on quantiles were similar (Caissie and El-Jabi, 1991a)

The index flood method is a powerful technique. For any basin, only one estimate of the index flood is required. Quantile estimates may then be obtained by simple mathematical or graphical relationship to the index flood. In addition, where errors in extraction of relevant physiographic parameters affect the reliability of the index flood, the same errors will similarly affect individual quantile estimators. The index flood approach is the method of regional quantile estimation which is investigated in this thesis.

Table 5.1 Parameters for Regional Models.

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Climate: | Mean Annual Precipitation (MAP) |
| | Effective Precipitation (EffP) |
| | Annual Dry Days/Wet Days |
| Streamflow | Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) |
| | Mean Annual Flow (MAF) |
| | Mean Annual Flood (MAFL) |
| Basin Physiography | Drainage Area (DA) |
| | Land Slope (SLP) |
| | Perimeter (P) |
| | Shape Coefficient (SHP) |
| | Mean Elevation of Basin (MELE) |
| | Basin Length-Width Ratio |
| | Latitude of basin Centroid (LAT) |
| | Longitude of basin Centroid (LONG) |
| | Channel Length (L) |
| | Channel Slope (S) |
| | Channel Shape |
| | Stream Order |
| | Drainage Density (DRD) |
| | Area of lakes and swamps (ALS) |
| | Influence area of lakes and swamps (ACLS) |

Table 5.1 Parameters for Regional Models (continued).

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Surface Conditions | Ground Cover Type |
| | Area of Forest (AF) |
| | Area of Pasture (AP) |
| | Area of Barren (AB) |
| Soil Type | Rock |
| | Soil Classification |
| | Soil Permeability |
| | Soil Depth |
| Moisture Conditions | Moisture condition of Ground Cover |
| | Moisture condition of Soil |

Table 5.2 Explanatory Variables from DOE 1984.

| Region | Explanatory Variables |
|----------------------|---|
| Entire Island | drainage area, mean annual runoff, percent area controlled by lakes and swamps, and shape factor |
| North | drainage area, mean annual runoff, latitude |
| South | drainage area, mean annual runoff, percent area controlled by lakes and swamps, and shape factor |

Table 5.3 Explanatory Variables from Beersing 1990.

| Region | Explanatory Variables |
|------------------|--|
| Avalon | drainage area, lakes and swamps factor, drainage density |
| Central | drainage area, drainage density |
| Northwest | drainage area, lakes and swamps factor, drainage density, slope of main channel |
| Southwest | drainage area, lakes and swamps factor |

6.0 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the selection of streamflow series, the testing of single station models, the testing of regional homogeneity, and the development and testing of single station and regional models is discussed.

6.1 Selection of Data Series for Analysis

The streamflow series used in this thesis include data from federal and provincial gauging stations, available as HYDAT CD-ROM Version 1.05.8, compiled by Environment Canada.

Four criteria were applied when selecting data sets from the one hundred eleven records available for active and discontinued hydrometric stations for the island portion of Newfoundland:

1. Each station must have at least 10 years of data
2. Any structural control of flows upstream must be insignificant
3. Records must be reasonably complete (no missing years)
4. Urbanized streams are excluded

Applying the above criteria to the one hundred eleven records available, sixty-three data series were found to be suitable for analysis. Seventeen omitted stations were regulated, and five omitted streams had diversions. A further sixteen stations were omitted because of short records, and six stations were omitted because they were in urban areas. Three stations were also omitted because they provided information which could be obtained from longer records at other locations in their watershed. One station was omitted because of missing data.

Data series for the single station analysis were tested for trend and independence using the standard measures of these properties as contained in CFA 3.1 (Pilon and Harvey, 1994). A number of series were found to have some problems.

Trend was detected in the AMF series for station 02ZF001 at 5% significance. More detailed graphical analysis of this data showed trend to be weakly defined. Regression of values on position explained only a small portion variability. In addition, the POT series data did not exhibit any significant trend. This series was retained for analysis in its entirety.

Trend was detected in the AMF series for station 02YK002. This was attributed to a diversion which was installed on this stream. Only 23 years of data following the diversion were retained.

Trend was detected in the AMF series for station 02ZH001. This basin was subject to a fire in the 1960s and this is the probable cause of this apparent trend. Regression of values on position explained only a small portion of variability ($r\text{-square} = 8.3\%$). The POT series showed no evidence of trend. This series was retained in its entirety.

A detailed analysis of trend, independence, randomness and outliers for Newfoundland streamflow records is presented in the work of Rollings (1999).

The sixty-three stations selected for analysis included the thirty-nine (39) stations used by Beersing (1990) in *Regional Flood Frequency Analysis for the Island of Newfoundland*, and the fifteen (15) stations used by Caissie and El-Jabi (1991a) in their analysis of Newfoundland streamflows. A complete listing of the hydrometric stations used in this analysis is included in Table 6.1.

6.2 POT Data Extraction and Computer Program

As part of this research, a computer program was developed to set a threshold and extract peaks. The program set an initial threshold, extracted all values above that threshold, applied peak independence criteria, discarded values which failed independence criteria, and calculated mean and variance of recurrence of extracted peaks. The mean and variance of recurrence were compared and evaluated against the Poisson distribution criteria. If the recurrence statistics were

not within acceptable tolerances (usually < 0.1 difference), the program reset the threshold and repeated the procedure until a satisfactory threshold was found.

Caissie and El-Jabi (1991b) produced an equation for estimation of q_o for Newfoundland streamflow records based on mean annual flood levels:

$$q_o = 0.587 \times MAFL - 2.514 \quad (36)$$

In initial tests of the extraction program, the estimate of Equation 28 was used to get a starting value for the threshold. However, on many occasions this estimator predicted a threshold which produced low recurrence rates, and the mean and variance of recurrence failed to converge. Because of this, the estimator used to obtain an initial threshold was modified to produce a lower initial estimate.

While the Poisson recurrence distribution criteria were used to set thresholds for peak extraction, there were some occasions where, the mean and variance of recurrence converged only at very high recurrence rates (eight to ten peaks per year). This recurrence level increases the calculation load significantly in later analysis, and may compromise the independence of peak-over-threshold events. For these reasons, where the Poisson criteria produced high recurrence rates, the threshold

was set higher and peak-over-threshold series extracted with between three and five peaks per year.

All extracted series were tested to see that their recurrence pattern fit that expected for a Poisson arrival process. This was done using the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test. All extracted series passed the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, and thus were determined to be reasonably well fitted by a Poisson Distribution.

6.3 Comparison of Results of Single Station Analysis

Flood quantiles were modelled for series of annual maxima using the Three Parameter Log-Normal Distribution (3LN), and the Generalized Extreme Value Distribution (GEV). For the Peak-over-threshold data series, flood quantiles were modelled using the Poisson-Exponential Distribution (PED) and the Poisson-Pareto Distribution (PPD).

The 3LN and GEV models have been used to model series of annual maxima for Newfoundland in the past. These methods were used by Beersing in the Regional Flood Frequency Analysis (Beersing, 1990). In general, he found that both approaches produced acceptable results for flood series in Newfoundland. However, the 3LN method is best suited to positively skewed data. Some of the annual maxima series for Newfoundland exhibit negative skew. Where a series of

annual maxima exhibits negative skew, the 3LN method is not well suited to describing the distribution of the data and derivation of the distribution parameters is more difficult than with positively skewed data. Because of these difficulties in fitting the model, there were six annual maxima series for which the 3LN model was not fitted as part of this research. The GEV model was fitted to the sixty-three annual maxima series.

The Poisson-Exponential Distribution (PED) and Poisson-Pareto Distribution (PPD) models were fitted to the sixty-three peak-over-threshold data series for Newfoundland. The Poisson component of these distributions is derived during the extraction of the peaks over threshold data, and the Poisson parameter λ , is equal to the recurrence rate for the peaks. The Exponential Distribution is the simplest magnitude distribution to derive, as it only has one parameter β . However, this reduces the flexibility of this distribution. The Pareto Distribution is more complex, requiring the derivation of α and k , the shape and scale parameters. Although the additional parameters of the Pareto model increases model complexity and add some model error, the increased flexibility of the Pareto distribution should allow it to fit the data more closely.

The first comparison of the output of the four flood quantile models under consideration was a comparison of central position for the model outputs. The extracted AMF and POT data sets were modelled using 3LN and GEV for the AMF, and PED and PPD for the POT. Quantile estimates were generated for 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 500, and 1000 year return periods. This was done for

all 63 sets of station data (57 for 3LN model). These results were then compared using ANOVA. Using this method, the central positions of quantile estimators for the different flood quantiles can be compared across distributions. Examination of the data presented in Table 6.2 shows that, for the four distributions considered, the means of model outputs were similar for all of the models considered. Examining the mean values for each quantile estimator, and considering the upper and lower limits of the 95% t-confidence interval for the mean, all of the models have outputs which, for each quantile level, are not statistically significantly different.

The box-plots in Figure 6.3 provide graphical confirmation of the above conclusion. For each group of quantile estimates, the position of the means and medians for the four models are both similar. For each group of quantile estimates the data sets are similarly positively skewed (mean greater than median). Some differences in the model results are apparent in Figure 6.3. For all of the quantile estimates, the 3LN distribution has a somewhat larger inter-quartile range (IQR) indicated by a larger box, and this effect becomes more pronounced at the higher quantiles. For quantile estimates of 25 years return or greater, the PED distribution exhibits a smaller IQR than the other distributions. For the two highest quantiles, the PPD data exhibits larger IQR than the PED data and the PPD data has high outliers.

Based on the ANOVA analysis of the quantile estimates and the examination of the boxplots, it would appear that all of the models produce similar results, and that the PED has slightly less variability at higher quantiles.

The second comparison of the outputs of the four flood quantile models under consideration was a comparison of the robustness of the models, or sensitivity of the model to variations in the underlying data set. The better model not only fits the data closely but is resistant to variations in the underlying data. To test this quality a resampling approach was used.

For each set of AMF and POT data, the model parameters and quantile estimates were generated for the underlying data set. The underlying data sets were then resampled with replacement and new model parameters and quantile estimates calculated based on the resampled data. Thus a set of new model outcomes was produced from data sets which contained only the data available from the original but with variation from the original. For any quantile, calculation of the standard error (standard deviation) of the produced quantile estimates gives a measure of the sensitivity of the model to variations in the data. Comparison of the standard error of results from different models allows a comparison of the relative robustness of the models.

For the 3LN model, resampling sometimes produced data sets for which the method used to derive the model parameters failed. For some of the original 63 data sets this failure on resampled data

occurred in a large proportion (>25%) of the resampling events. Where this occurred, the standard error was not calculated for the resampled data. On this basis, in addition to the 6 series omitted because the underlying data set could not be fitted, an additional 20 series were omitted from analysis of standard error of 3LN quantile estimates.

The 3LN distribution is commonly used for single station analysis and has met with good success in the island of Newfoundland (Beersing, 1990). However, the distribution does not work well for data with negative skew. In this work a number of short series and series with skew close to zero were analysed. During resampling it is easy for skew to be shifted slightly thus causing a 3LN model intended for positively skewed data to fail. However, the comparison of central position and error for the distributions analysed should remain valid. The fact that no statistically significant difference was found in central position of the distributions tends to confirm this.

Similarly to the analysis of the central position, the standard error was analysed using ANOVA. Examination of the data presented in Table 6.3 indicates that for lower quantile estimates the standard error of the model outcomes is similar for all the models. Using the mean standard error and 95% t-confidence interval, to compare the model outcomes for the 2, 5, 10 and 25 year quantile groups, there is no statistically significant difference between the standard error of the model outcomes within each quantile group. For the 50 year quantile estimates, the standard error of PED outcomes is the lowest of the four, and the 3LN is the highest. In fact, while the mean of

the PED standard error is within the 95% t-confidence interval of the 3LN, the mean standard error of the 3LN is higher than the upper limit of the confidence interval for the PED standard error. At the 100 year quantile level the standard error of the 3LN and PED are significantly statistically different, and while the GEV and PPD outcomes are higher than the upper limit of the 95% t-interval for the PED, the PED is barely within the lower limits of the confidence interval for the GEV and PPD outcomes.

At the 500 and 1000 year quantiles, the standard error of the PED outcomes is significantly statistically different than that of the 3LN, GEV, and PPD. Based on this analysis, it would appear that the four models exhibit similar standard error for low quantiles, with the PED model exhibiting better performance at higher quantiles.

Examination of the box plots of Figure 6.4 tends to confirm the results of the ANOVA analysis. For the lower quantiles, the standard error is similar for all models. At higher quantiles, starting at about $Q(50)$, the size of the IQR, indicated by the height of the box, begins to be noticeably smaller for the PED outcomes. Indeed, for the higher quantiles, the position of the PED standard error median is lower, and the box is significantly smaller. In addition, there are fewer outliers for the PED data and the outliers are closer to the expected range. This tends to indicate that the PED model has comparable performance at lower quantiles, and better performance at higher quantiles.

Overall, for both AMF and POT series, the PED model had the lowest standard error in model outcomes for resampled data. The quantile estimates from PED models were consistent with those of the other methods over the range of return periods under consideration. This seems to indicate that the PED model produces a reasonably good fit to the data and is more resistant to changes in the data. Thus, among the models tested, the PED model is determined to provide the best estimates.

6.4 Results of Regional Homogeneity Testing

As discussed in Section 4.3 of this thesis, the division of Newfoundland into four hydrologically homogeneous regions as defined by Beersing (1990) was adopted for this research. This approach was examined by Richter (1994), who found that more complex methods of delineating regions did not improve the performance of regional models. As a check on the validity of these regions, homogeneity testing was done on the island as a single region and on the four regions delineated by Beersing (1990). The stations within the regions were tested for homogeneity using the ratio of the ten-year and two-year flood quantiles, $Q(10)/Q(2)$. These quantiles were selected as reliable indicators because all stations had at least ten years of data. The ratio $Q(10)/Q(2)$ was calculated for all stations in a region, and the mean and standard deviation of the ratio was computed. All stations were then tested to be within the 95% and 99% t-confidence interval

about the mean. The stations were also tested using the nonparametric outlier criteria of the boxplot ($LL = QL - 1.5IQR$, $UL = QU + 1.5IQR$).

Testing the whole island as one region, two stations failed for the 95% t-confidence interval and one failed for the 99% t-confidence limits. Station 02YD001 failed for the 95% t-confidence interval but passed for 99%. This station also failed the non-parametric outlier criteria. Station 02ZM009 failed at both the 95% and 99% t-confidence levels and was well below the lower limit. Station 02ZM009 also failed the non-parametric outlier criteria.

For the Avalon Region one station, 02ZM009, failed for the 95% t-confidence interval but passed for the 99% interval. Station 02ZM009 also failed the non-parametric outlier criteria. This station is located at the southeastern corner of the Avalon Peninsula and is highly exposed to the oceanic weather effects which occur in this region.

For the Central Region all stations passed for the 95% and 99% t-confidence intervals and for the non-parametric outlier criteria. For the Northwest Region all stations passed for the 95% and 99% t-confidence intervals and for the non-parametric outlier criteria. Station 02YD001, which was marked as an outlier for the whole island region, was not an outlier in the northwest region. For the

Southwest Region all stations passed at both 95% and 99% t-confidence intervals and for the non-parametric outlier criteria.

6.5 Results of Regional Modelling

6.5.1 Model Generation by Linear and Nonlinear Regression

As discussed in Section 5.2 of this thesis, regional models typically follow the nonlinear form given in Equation 34, repeated here:

$$Q(T)=a_0x_1^{a_1}x_2^{a_2}x_3^{a_3}\dots \quad (34)$$

Traditionally, nonlinear models for flood quantiles, as shown above, have been derived by transforming the data into log-space, performing linear regression, and then transforming the equations back into normal space and applying them to the data. This method introduces bias into the equations as a result of the transformation. Development of regional models by direct nonlinear regression should produce superior results to the traditional log-linear method. The bias inherent to the logarithmic transformation is not generated, and the fitting of the model coefficients is performed in the real data space.

In this thesis, the traditional log-linear method of model development was used to generate regional models for the two-year return flood quantile. Direct nonlinear regression was also used to generate regional models for the two-year return flood quantile. The regional model outcomes from linear and nonlinear regression are compared to each other on the basis of their goodness of fit to the expected flood quantile values.

Variables considered in the development of regional equations were limited to physical descriptors of basin characteristics. This data was available from the Newfoundland Department of Environment and Labour. Variables related to basin position were eliminated because regionalisation effectively addresses position. Variables related to mean annual runoff and other analogs for precipitation were eliminated as well. Variables related to soils, infiltration rates, and soil permeability were eliminated because information on these basin properties was not readily available.

Explanatory variables were then included and excluded following an iterative process. The drainage area was selected as the first explanatory variable for all regions. Following this, slope, fractional area of lakes and swamps, lakes and swamps factor, drainage density, and shape were considered. Factors such as fractional area of barrens and forest were also considered but were not found to improve the performance of estimates. The order of variable testing and the combinations of variables tested was determined by the author in an organized sequence. The performance of

variables was judged based on the r-square, mean error, and root mean square error of the regional estimate developed.

Model parameters which were considered as possible explanatory variables included the drainage area, the basin slope, the fraction of the basin controlled by lakes and swamps, the lakes and swamps factor, the drainage density, the and shape. Drainage area is typically the most significant component of regional models because the system inputs (rainfall, fog, or melting snow) are distributed over the basin at some depth and the input volume is the product of the drainage area and the input depth. Drainage area was found to be the most significant parameter for the regional models developed here.

Two parameters were considered for addressing the influence of lakes and swamps: Fractional Area Controlled by Lakes and Swamps (FACLS), and Lakes and Swamps Factor (LSF). The FACLS is calculated simply as the ratio of the area of the basin hydrologically controlled by lakes and swamps to the entire area of the basin. The calculation of the LSF, as explained in Section 5.1 of this thesis, is done using the FACLS and the fractional area of lakes and swamps (FLSAR), and is slightly more complicated. The influence of lakes and swamps in a basin is typically to mitigate the height of flood peaks, and the use of the FACLS is intended to allow the model to include this attenuating effect. The LSF was adopted by Beersing (1990) to include the effect of the open water surfaces of lakes and swamps which reduce infiltration in the drainage basin. In this thesis,

only one of the FACLS or LSF was included in any regional model - the one which produced the best fit.

The basin slope (SLP) was considered potentially significant because steeper basins tend to concentrate water more rapidly, and thus will tend to respond to shorter duration and higher intensity precipitation inputs. Drainage density (DRD) is computed as the ratio of the length of all the streams in a watershed to the area of the watershed, and gives a measure of how well drained the basin is. The implication is that an increase in drainage density will produce an increase inflow. The shape parameter (SHP) is a measure of how elongated a basin is, with a more elongated basin having a higher shape factor. Shape is calculated using a simple formula (Beersing 1990):

$$SHAPE = 0.28 \times Perimeter \div \sqrt{DrainageArea} \quad (37)$$

A number of parameters which are popular for the development of regional models were not employed. No parameter for precipitation was included in the analysis. This information was excluded because the climate network for Newfoundland is sparse and availability of accurate precipitation is limited. The problems with the use of precipitation data or its analog, mean annual runoff, have been discussed at some length by Lye and Moore (1991), and Beersing (1990). The use of Latitude and Longitude or Northing and Easting parameters was not considered. Where

a regional model is applied, the region is assumed to be hydrologically homogeneous so position within the region should not influence the model outputs.

6.5.2 Comparison of Linear and Nonlinear Models

A number of measures of model fit are available to compare model outcomes for the regional models. The three measures selected to compare the model outcomes are the adjusted R-square value, the mean error (ME), and root mean square error (RMSE). The adjusted R-square value indicates how much of the variability of the dependant data is explained by the model. Error was calculated as the difference of the predicted value less the expected value of $Q(2)$, and the mean error (ME) was calculated as the simple average of the error. This approach gives an indication of the location of the central position of the model outputs compared to the expected value, and allows one to get an indication of the bias of the model. The root mean square error is calculated at the root of the average of the error squared. The RMSE is a measure of the average size of the deviation between the predicted and actual values of the dependant variable.

In general, the models generated by nonlinear regression produced higher R-square values and lower RMSE for the same model parameters. Mean error, ME, was consistently smaller and positively skewed for the nonlinear models. This indicates that the models derived using nonlinear regression had less bias, and their bias was to slightly overestimate the flood quantile. Considering

the error properties of the models, the nonlinear derived models were generally better than those derived using the log-linear method.

Results for log-linear and nonlinear regression on the whole island, are presented in tables 6.4 and 6.5, respectively. For the whole island, the best fit was obtained using the drainage area, slope, lakes and swamps factor, and drainage density. Results for the Avalon region are presented in Tables 6.6 and 6.7 respectively, and show that the best fit for the Avalon region is obtained by nonlinear regression using DA, LSF, and DRD. It should be noted that the model gave good results when just DA and LSF were used, and the improvement in the fit by the addition of DRD was slight. For the Central Region, nonlinear regression using DA and FACLS produced the best model. The addition of slope to the equation produced a slightly higher R-square value and a slightly lower ME, but increased RMSE. For the Northwest Region, nonlinear regression on DA, SLP, and DRD produced the best result with the highest R-square value, and ME and RMSE which were very close to the lowest for the model results. For this regional equation the addition of LSF did improve the RMSE slightly, but the R-squared and ME values were made worse. For the Southwest Region, nonlinear regression on DA, SLP, and SHP gave the best estimate, with a much higher R-square value, and ME and RMSE than any other combination of parameters tested.

In general, the nonlinear regression models outperformed the log-linear regression models. For the same parameters, the nonlinear models exhibited higher R-squared values, and lower RMSE. The

mean error, ME, which was a measure of bias, was much better for the nonlinear models than for the log-linear models.

The parameters FACLS and LSF, contribute similar information to the model, and for most models the addition of either of these parameters produced similar results. Since the FACLS is simpler to derive, it is probably the best choice for representing the effect of lakes and swamps in the models.

6.6 Index Floods

The index flood method for estimating flood quantiles for regions is an approach with a long and successful history. This was the method of developing regional quantile estimators for the whole island and the four regions considered in this thesis.

The index flood selected was the 2-year quantile estimate, $Q(2)$. Other popular choices for the index flood include the mean daily maximum flow and the mean annual maximum. The process of generating the index flood curves for each region is a simple one. First the flood quantiles for various return periods are calculated for each station. In this case the PED quantile estimates were generated for the 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, 100, 500, and 1000 year return periods. The $Q(T)/Q(2)$ ratio for each station and each quantile was then calculated. Then for each region, the mean ratio of

$Q(T)/Q(2)$ ratio was calculated for each quantile. This mean $Q(T)/Q(2)$ ratio allows the estimation of $Q(T)$ for an ungauged site once the index flood $Q(2)$ is known. Estimates of $Q(2)$ for ungauged stations may be generated using the formulas developed for each region in section 6.5 of this thesis. Once the index flood for any site is known, estimates of quantiles may be calculated by the following formula:

$$Q(T) = \frac{Q(T)_R}{Q(2)_R} \times Q(2)_s \quad (38)$$

Where $Q(T)_R/Q(2)_R$ is the known ratio of the flood quantile to the index flood for the region.

An analysis of the errors associated with quantile prediction using the index floods and ratios derived in this thesis is presented in Table 6.16. The mean error, ME, is typically quite small compared to the mean estimate and is also somewhat positively skewed, indicating that the estimates tend to be somewhat higher than the expected values. For most regions the RMSE is quite small at low quantiles and remains at less than 10% of the mean expected value even at the highest quantile estimates.

For the Northwest region, however, the performance of the estimators is not as good as for the other regions, and RMSE is >10% for quantile estimates above the 25 year return period. The $Q(T)/Q(2)$ ratios for the whole island were applied to generate estimates for the 19 stations in the

Northwest region These estimators did produce somewhat lower RMSE for the samples, but they also behaved poorly at the higher quantiles and had $RMSE > 10\%$ of the mean expected value for quantiles of $Q(50)$ and higher. These estimates were also somewhat negatively biased and tended to underestimate the expected flow.

The mean and median ratio values for estimation of quantiles from the index flood $Q(2)$, are given in Table 6.15. In this thesis, the mean ratios were used to generate estimates for flood quantiles at each gauging site. Figure 6.6(a-e) allows graphic interpretation to determine flood quantile ratios for return periods other than those used to generate the curve.

Table 6.1 Hydrometric Series for the Entire Island.

| No. | Station No. | Station Name | Record Years |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 02YA001 | St. Genevieve River | 28 |
| 2 | 02YA002 | Bartlett's River | 12 |
| 3 | 02YC001 | Torrent River at Bristols Pool | 39 |
| 4 | 02YD001 | Beaver Brook | 20 |
| 5 | 02YD002 | Northeast Brook near Roddickton | 18 |
| 6 | 02YE001 | Greavett Brook | 14 |
| 7 | 02YF001 | Cat Arm River | 15 |
| 8 | 02YG001 | Main River at Paradise Pool | 12 |
| 9 | 02YH001 | Bottom Creek near Rocky Harb. | 13 |
| 10 | 02YJ001 | Harrys River | 30 |
| 11 | 02YJ003 | Pinchgut Brook | 11 |
| 12 | 02YK002 | Lewaseechjeech Brook at L. Grand Lake | 23 |
| 13 | 02YK004 | Hinds Brk. near Grand Lake | 24 |
| 14 | 02YK005 | Sheffield Brook near TCH | 26 |
| 15 | 02YK007 | Glide Brook | 13 |
| 16 | 02YK008 | Boot Brook | 13 |
| 17 | 02YL001 | Upper Humber R. near Reidville | 70 |
| 18 | 02YL004 | South Brook at Pasadena | 15 |
| 19 | 02YL005 | Rattler Brook near Mcivers | 13 |
| 20 | 02YM003 | South West Brook near Baie Verte | 18 |
| 21 | 02YN002 | Lloyds R. below King George IV Lake | 17 |
| 22 | 02YO006 | Peters River near Botwood | 17 |
| 23 | 02YO007 | Leech Brook | 13 |
| 24 | 02YO008 | Great Rattling Brk. Above tote Rv. | 14 |
| 25 | 02YO010 | Junction Brook near Badger | 12 |
| 26 | 02YP001 | Shoal Arm Brook | 15 |
| 27 | 02YQ001 | Gander R. at Big Chute | 49 |
| 28 | 02YQ004 | NW Gander River near Gander Lake | 15 |
| 29 | 02YQ005 | Salmon River near Glenwood | 11 |
| 30 | 02YR001 | Middle Brook Near Gambo | 39 |
| 31 | 02YR002 | Ragged Harbour River | 20 |
| 32 | 02YR003 | Indian Bay Brook near NW Arm | 17 |
| 33 | 02YS001 | Terra Nova Riv at Eight Mile Bridge | 34 |

Table 6.1 Hydrometric Series for the Entire Island (continued).

| | | | |
|----|---------|--|----|
| 34 | 02YS003 | Southwest Brook at Terra Nova Park | 31 |
| 35 | 02ZA001 | Little Barachois Brook neat St. Georges | 19 |
| 36 | 02ZA002 | Highlands River at TCH | 16 |
| 37 | 02ZA003 | Little Codroy R. Near Doyles | 15 |
| 38 | 02ZB001 | Isle Aux Morts River | 36 |
| 39 | 02ZC002 | Grandy Brook | 16 |
| 40 | 02ZE001 | Salmon River at Long Pond | 22 |
| 41 | 02ZF001 | Bay du Nord River | 48 |
| 42 | 02ZG001 | Garnish River | 40 |
| 43 | 02ZG002 | Tides Brook | 20 |
| 44 | 02ZG003 | Salmonier River near Lamaline | 18 |
| 45 | 02ZG004 | Rattle Brook near Boat Harbour | 17 |
| 46 | 02ZH001 | Pipers Hole Riv. At Mothers Brk. | 46 |
| 47 | 02ZH002 | Come By Chance River | 30 |
| 48 | 02ZJ001 | Southern Bay River near Sthm Bay | 22 |
| 49 | 02ZJ002 | Salmon Cove River near Champneys | 15 |
| 50 | 02ZJ003 | Shoal Harbour River | 12 |
| 51 | 02ZK001 | Rocky River near Colinette | 50 |
| 52 | 02ZK002 | Northeast River near Placentia | 16 |
| 53 | 02ZK003 | Little Barachois Riv. Near Placentia | 15 |
| 54 | 02ZK004 | Little Salmonier Riv. Near North Harbour | 15 |
| 55 | 02ZK005 | Trout Brook | 11 |
| 56 | 02ZL003 | Spout Cove Brook | 18 |
| 57 | 02ZL004 | Shearstown Brook at Shearstown | 15 |
| 58 | 02ZL005 | Big Brook at Lead Cove | 13 |
| 59 | 02ZM006 | Northeast Pond River at NE Pond | 45 |
| 60 | 02ZM009 | Seal Cove Brook near Cappahayden | 19 |
| 61 | 02ZM016 | South Riv near Holyrood | 15 |
| 62 | 02ZN001 | Northwest Brook at NW Pond | 30 |
| 63 | 02ZN002 | St Shotts Riv | 13 |

Table 6.1a Hydrometric Series for the Avalon Region.

| No. | Station No. | Station Name | Record Years |
|-----|-------------|--|--------------|
| 1 | 02ZG001 | Garnish River | 40 |
| 2 | 02ZG002 | Tides Brook | 20 |
| 3 | 02ZG003 | Salmonier River near Lamaline | 18 |
| 4 | 02ZG004 | Rattle Brook near Boat Harbour | 17 |
| 5 | 02ZH001 | Pipers Hole Riv. At Mothers Brk. | 46 |
| 6 | 02ZH002 | Come By Chance River | 30 |
| 7 | 02ZK001 | Rocky River near Colinette | 50 |
| 8 | 02ZK002 | Northeast River near Placentia | 16 |
| 9 | 02ZK003 | Little Barachois Riv. Near Placentia | 15 |
| 10 | 02ZK004 | Little Salmonier Riv. Near North Harbour | 15 |
| 11 | 02ZK005 | Trout Brook | 11 |
| 12 | 02ZL003 | Spout Cove Brook | 18 |
| 13 | 02ZL004 | Shearstown Brook at Shearstown | 15 |
| 14 | 02ZL005 | Big Brook at Lead Cove | 13 |
| 15 | 02ZM006 | Northeast Pond River at NE Pond | 45 |
| 16 | 02ZM009 | Seal Cove Brook near Cappahayden | 19 |
| 17 | 02ZM016 | South Riv. near Holyrood | 15 |
| 18 | 02ZN001 | Northwest Brook at NW Pond | 30 |
| 19 | 02ZN002 | St. Shotts Riv. | 13 |

Table 6.1b Hydrometric Series for the Central Region.

| No. | Station No. | Station Name | Record Years |
|-----|-------------|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 02YN002 | Lloyds R. below King George IV Lake | 17 |
| 2 | 02YO006 | Peters River near Botwood | 17 |
| 3 | 02YO007 | Leech Brook | 13 |
| 4 | 02YO008 | Great Rattling Brk. Above tote Rv. | 14 |
| 5 | 02YO010 | Junction Brook near Badger | 12 |
| 6 | 02YP001 | Shoal Arm Brook | 15 |
| 7 | 02YQ001 | Gander R. at Big Chute | 49 |
| 8 | 02YQ004 | NW Gander River near Gander Lake | 15 |
| 9 | 02YQ005 | Salmon River near Glenwood | 11 |
| 10 | 02YR001 | Middle Brook Near Gambo | 39 |
| 11 | 02YR002 | Ragged Harbour River | 20 |
| 12 | 02YR003 | Indian Bay Brook near NW Arm | 17 |
| 13 | 02YS001 | Terra Nova Riv at Eight Mile Bridge | 34 |
| 14 | 02YS003 | Southwest Brook at Terra Nova Park | 31 |
| 15 | 02ZE001 | Salmon River at Long Pond | 22 |
| 16 | 02ZF001 | Bay du Nord River | 48 |
| 17 | 02ZJ001 | Southern Bay River near Sthm Bay | 22 |
| 18 | 02ZJ002 | Salmon Cove River near Champneys | 15 |
| 19 | 02ZJ003 | Shoal Harbour River | 12 |

Table 6.1c Hydrometric Series for the Northwest Region.

| No. | Station No. | Station Name | Record Years |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| 1 | 02YA001 | St. Genevieve River | 28 |
| 2 | 02YA002 | Bartlett's River | 12 |
| 3 | 02YC001 | Torrent River at Bristols Pool | 39 |
| 4 | 02YD001 | Beaver Brook | 20 |
| 5 | 02YD002 | Northeast Brook near Roddickton | 18 |
| 6 | 02YE001 | Greavett Brook | 14 |
| 7 | 02YF001 | Cat Arm River | 15 |
| 8 | 02YG001 | Main River at Paradise Pool | 12 |
| 9 | 02YH001 | Bottom Creek near Rocky Harb. | 13 |
| 10 | 02YJ003 | Pinchgut Brook | 11 |
| 11 | 02YK002 | Lewaseechjeech Brook at L. Grand Lake | 23 |
| 12 | 02YK004 | Hinds Brk. near Grand Lake | 24 |
| 13 | 02YK005 | Sheffield Brook near TCH | 26 |
| 14 | 02YK007 | Glide Brook | 13 |
| 15 | 02YK008 | Boot Brook | 13 |
| 16 | 02YL001 | Upper Humber R. near Reidville | 70 |
| 17 | 02YL004 | South Brook at Pasadena | 15 |
| 18 | 02YL005 | Rattler Brook near Mcivers | 13 |
| 19 | 02YM003 | South West Brook near Baie Verte | 18 |

Table 6.1d Hydrometric Series for the Southwestern Region.

| No. | Station No. | Station Name | Record Years |
|-----|-------------|---|--------------|
| 1 | 02YJ001 | Harrys River | 30 |
| 2 | 02ZA001 | Little Barachois Brook neat St. Georges | 19 |
| 3 | 02ZA002 | Highlands River at TCH | 16 |
| 4 | 02ZA003 | Little Codroy R. Near Doyles | 15 |
| 5 | 02ZB001 | Isle Aux Morts River | 36 |
| 6 | 02ZC002 | Grandy Brook | 16 |

Table 6.2 Mean and Upper and lower 95% t-confidence limit for quantile values derived using four distributions.

| Quantile | Distribution | | | | | | | |
|----------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | LN3 | | GEV | | PExp | | PPar | |
| | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | |
| | LL | UL | LL | UL | LL | UL | LL | UL |
| 2 | 96.9 | | 90.8 | | 92.9 | | 92.6 | |
| | 59.8 | 134.0 | 58.4 | 123.1 | 61.8 | 124.0 | 61.7 | 123.5 |
| 5 | 121.0 | | 119.7 | | 118.3 | | 118.3 | |
| | 75.6 | 166.4 | 77.9 | 161.5 | 79.0 | 157.6 | 78.4 | 158.2 |
| 10 | 140.9 | | 138.4 | | 137.5 | | 138.3 | |
| | 89.0 | 192.8 | 90.8 | 186.0 | 92.0 | 183.0 | 90.8 | 185.7 |
| 25 | 167.8 | | 162.1 | | 162.8 | | 165.9 | |
| | 107.5 | 228.1 | 107.4 | 216.7 | 109.2 | 216.5 | 107.2 | 224.5 |
| 50 | 186.0 | | 179.9 | | 182.0 | | 188.0 | |
| | 120.2 | 251.9 | 120.2 | 239.6 | 122.2 | 241.9 | 119.6 | 256.3 |
| 100 | 206.5 | | 198.2 | | 201.2 | | 211.4 | |
| | 134.5 | 278.5 | 133.6 | 262.8 | 135.1 | 267.3 | 132.0 | 290.8 |
| 500 | 256.7 | | 243.9 | | 245.8 | | 272.6 | |
| | 169.8 | 343.5 | 167.7 | 320.1 | 165.3 | 326.3 | 160.6 | 384.7 |
| 1000 | 280.0 | | 265.9 | | 265.0 | | 302.8 | |
| | 186.2 | 373.8 | 184.4 | 347.4 | 178.2 | 351.7 | 172.8 | 432.8 |

Table 6.3 **Mean and Upper and Lower 95% confidence limit for standard error of quantile values derived using four distributions**

| Quantile | Distribution | | | | | | | |
|----------|--------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | LN3 | | GEV | | PExp | | PPar | |
| | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | | Mean | |
| | LL | UL | LL | UL | LL | UL | LL | UL |
| 2 | 5.44 | | 7.66 | | 5.96 | | 5.927 | |
| | 3.583 | 7.291 | 4.44 | 10.87 | 3.988 | 7.932 | 4.048 | 7.807 |
| 5 | 7.10 | | 9.33 | | 8.84 | | 8.46 | |
| | 4.78 | 9.42 | 6.06 | 12.61 | 6.00 | 11.69 | 5.80 | 11.11 |
| 10 | 9.45 | | 10.79 | | 11.03 | | 10.95 | |
| | 6.46 | 12.45 | 7.56 | 14.02 | 7.53 | 14.53 | 7.55 | 14.35 |
| 25 | 15.24 | | 14.58 | | 13.91 | | 15.47 | |
| | 10.58 | 19.91 | 10.38 | 18.79 | 9.54 | 18.28 | 10.72 | 20.22 |
| 50 | 21.27 | | 19.57 | | 16.08 | | 20.12 | |
| | 14.93 | 27.60 | 12.67 | 25.46 | 11.05 | 21.11 | 13.97 | 26.26 |
| 100 | 30.13 | | 26.41 | | 18.28 | | 26.06 | |
| | 21.34 | 38.92 | 18.08 | 34.73 | 12.59 | 23.97 | 18.06 | 34.05 |
| 500 | 63.13 | | 50.01 | | 23.35 | | 45.68 | |
| | 44.31 | 81.96 | 32.96 | 67.07 | 16.12 | 30.57 | 30.70 | 60.65 |
| 1000 | 85.4 | | 64.3 | | 25.53 | | 57.14 | |
| | 58.3 | 112.5 | 41.8 | 86.8 | 17.64 | 33.42 | 37.46 | 76.83 |

Table 6.4 Whole Island Results of Log-Linear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | ao | a1 | a2 | a3 | | | | | | |
| Q(2) | 0.8396 | 0.8 | | | | | | 86.1 | -5.55 | 55.50 |
| Q(2) | 0.4762 | 0.947 | 0.393 | | | | | 89.0 | -5.172 | 42.90 |
| Q(2) | 0.447 | 0.940 | 0.348 | -0.320 | | | | 89.9 | -5.191 | 35.65 |
| Q(2) | 0.913 | 0.932 | 0.349 | | -1.10 | | | 90.2 | -4.56 | 32.159 |
| Q(2) | 0.6643 | 0.992 | 0.344 | | -0.952 | 0.428 | | 91.8 | -4.56 | 32.667 |
| Q(2) | 0.8025 | 0.885 | 0.349 | | -1.19 | | 0.755 | 90.7 | -6.75 | 36.67 |
| Q(2) | 0.575 | 0.944 | 0.343 | | -1.04 | 0.438 | 0.797 | 92.4 | -6.62 | 37.36 |

Table 6.5 Whole Island Fits of Nonlinear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | % | | |
| | ao | a1 | a2 | a3 | a4 | a5 | a6 | | | |
| Q(2) | 2.122 | 0.670 | | | | | | 80.36 | 0.834 | 50.20 |
| Q(2) | 0.932 | 0.855 | 0.368 | | | | | 86.43 | 0.673 | 41.16 |
| Q(2) | 0.637 | 0.889 | 0.377 | -0.601 | | | | 92.76 | 0.242 | 29.72 |
| Q(2) | 1.645 | 0.883 | 0.4119 | | -1.321 | | | 93.06 | 2.37 | 29.33 |
| Q(2) | 1.597 | 0.896 | 0.355 | | -1.386 | 0.237 | | 93.61 | 0.526 | 27.66 |
| Q(2) | 1.571 | 0.887 | 0.421 | | -1.408 | | 0.078 | 92.91 | -0.043 | 29.15 |

Table 6.6 Avalon Region Fits of Log-Linear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | | | | | | |
| Q(2) | 0.706 | 0.883 | | | | | | 93.7 | 1.69 | 16.61 |
| Q(2) | 0.745 | 0.867 | -0.039 | | | | | 93.3 | 1.54 | 15.85 |
| Q(2) | 0.608 | 0.907 | | | | 0.600 | | 95.1 | 0.0035 | 9.52 |
| Q(2) | 0.773 | 0.897 | | | -0.326 | 0.581 | | 94.9 | 0.175 | 9.26 |
| Q(2) | 0.604 | 0.905 | | | | 0.063 | 0.033 | 94.7 | 0.091 | 9.40 |
| Q(2) | 0.601 | 0.906 | | -0.085 | | 0.588 | | 94.8 | 0.066 | 9.25 |

Table 6.7 Avalon Region Fits of Nonlinear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|------|--------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | a4 | a5 | a6 | | | |
| Q(2) | 1.522 | 0.728 | | | | | | 94.8 | 0.541 | 9.796 |
| Q(2) | 1.685 | 0.679 | -0.21 | | | | | 95.5 | -0.172 | 8.895 |
| Q(2) | 0.992 | 0.812 | | | | 0.382 | | 95.7 | 0.184 | 8.64 |
| Q(2) | 1.75 | 0.723 | | | | | -0.178 | 94.6 | 0.815 | 9.71 |
| Q(2) | 1.295 | 0.748 | | -0.265 | | | | 95.1 | 0.315 | 9.25 |
| Q(2) | 2.978 | 0.694 | | | -0.966 | | | 95.8 | 0.710 | 8.56 |
| Q(2) | 1.889 | 0.773 | | | -0.869 | 0.361 | | 96.5 | 0.313 | 7.61 |

Table 6.8 Central Region Fits of Log-Linear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-----|------|-------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | | | | | | |
| Q(2) | 0.486 | 0.843 | | | | | | 92.0 | -7.77 | 59.81 |
| Q(2) | 0.259 | 1.03 | 0.402 | | | | | 92.8 | -1.05 | 59.13 |
| Q(2) | 0.461 | 0.831 | | -0.714 | | | | 93.2 | -4.58 | 28.10 |
| Q(2) | 1.019 | 0.828 | | | -1.19 | | | 92.8 | -6.02 | 31.53 |
| Q(2) | 0.385 | 0.917 | | | | 0.518 | | 93.8 | -8.80 | 59.59 |
| Q(2) | 0.206 | 1.10 | 0.402 | | | 0.518 | | 94.7 | -5.08 | 59.43 |
| Q(2) | 0.3012 | 0.960 | 0.280 | -0.573 | | | | 93.9 | -3.90 | 29.79 |

Table 6.9 Central Region Fits of Nonlinear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | a4 | a5 | a6 | | | |
| Q(2) | 0.950 | 0.762 | | | | | | 86.13 | 3.25 | 58.37 |
| Q(2) | 0.798 | 0.853 | 0.287 | | | | | 87.15 | 4.70 | 54.32 |
| Q(2) | 0.465 | 0.829 | | -0.809 | | | | 96.99 | -1.28 | 26.38 |
| Q(2) | 1.089 | 0.844 | | | -1.495 | | | 96.79 | -2.23 | 27.16 |
| Q(2) | 0.712 | 0.827 | | | | 0.294 | | 85.84 | 3.47 | 57.31 |
| Q(2) | 1.313 | 0.815 | | | | | -1.131 | 87.58 | 2.04 | 53.62 |

Table 6.10 Northwest Region Fits of Log-Linear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|------|--------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | ao | a1 | a2 | a3 | | | | | | |
| Q(2) | 0.5862 | 0.857 | | | | | | 85.5 | -13.35 | 49.14 |
| Q(2) | 0.339 | 0.984 | 0.481 | | | | | 90.9 | -8.54 | 37.30 |
| Q(2) | 0.2698 | 1.01 | 0.462 | -0.256 | | | | 91.9 | -8.78 | 34.34 |
| Q(2) | 0.5075 | 1.027 | 0.47 | | -1.15 | | | 92.5 | -5.04 | 31.38 |
| Q(2) | 0.313 | 1.01 | 0.479 | | | 0.133 | | 90.6 | -4.90 | 30.77 |
| Q(2) | 0.475 | 1.04 | 0.465 | | -1.11 | 0.089 | | 92.1 | -3.90 | 30.23 |
| Q(2) | 0.3396 | 0.983 | 0.451 | | | | 0.019 | 90.3 | -8.20 | 37.14 |

Table 6.11 Northwest Region Fits of Nonlinear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | a0 | a1 | a2 | a3 | a4 | a5 | a6 | (%) | | |
| Q(2) | 0.469 | 0.918 | | | | | | 89.6 | 1.46 | 39.16 |
| Q(2) | 0.234 | 1.057 | 0.498 | | | | | 93.37 | -0.517 | 30.37 |
| Q(2) | 0.272 | 1.026 | 0.47 | -0.266 | | | | 93.28 | 1.166 | 29.58 |
| Q(2) | 0.408 | 1.024 | 0.476 | | -0.612 | | | 93.16 | 0.413 | 29.89 |
| Q(2) | 0.326 | 1.015 | 0.443 | | | 0.225 | | 93.98 | 0.496 | 27.98 |
| Q(2) | 0.304 | 1.019 | 0.445 | | 0.088 | 0.234 | | 93.55 | 0.626 | 27.96 |
| Q(2) | 0.104 | 1.133 | 0.545 | | | | 0.597 | 93.43 | -1.763 | 29.26 |

Table 6.12 Southwest Region Fits of Log-Linear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|-------------|-------|------|-------|------|-----|------|------|-------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | ao | a1 | a2 | a3 | | | | | | |
| Q(2) | 3.03 | 0.685 | | | | | | 48.1 | -5.65 | 56.98 |
| Q(2) | 0.0000203 | 2.89 | 2.62 | | | | | 78.3 | -6.64 | 34.82 |
| Q(2) | 0.000111 | 2.71 | 2.26 | | 1.55 | | | 80.9 | 1.91 | 18.46 |
| Q(2) | 0.000001122 | 3.66 | 3.36 | | | | 1.96 | 98.2 | -7.51 | 12.64 |

Table 6.13 Southwest Region Fits of Nonlinear Regression.

| Quantile | Parameters | | | | | | | R2 | ME | RMSE |
|----------|-------------|------|------|--------|-------|-----|-------|------|-------|-------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP | | | |
| | ao | a1 | a2 | a3 | | | | | | |
| Q(2) | 15.83 | 0.40 | | | | | | 26.9 | 0.45 | 49.75 |
| Q(2) | 0.0000353 | 2.80 | 2.51 | | | | | 54.8 | 0.32 | 34.04 |
| Q(2) | 0.000309 | 2.33 | 1.82 | -0.648 | | | | 80.4 | -0.48 | 18.52 |
| Q(2) | 0.00199 | 2.22 | 1.69 | | -2.12 | | | 86.2 | 0.30 | 15.61 |
| Q(2) | 0.000000192 | 4.03 | 3.72 | | | | -2.23 | 96.1 | -0.18 | 7.57 |

Table 6.14 Regional Equations for the 2-Year Return Period Flood Quantile.

| Region | Parameter | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|
| | Coef | DA | SLP | FACLS | LSF | DRD | SHP |
| Island | 1.645 | 0.883 | 0.4119 | | -1.321 | 0.237 | |
| Eastern | 1.889 | 0.773 | | | -0.869 | 0.361 | |
| Central | 0.461 | 0.831 | | -0.714 | | | |
| Northwest | 0.3259 | 1.015 | 0.4431 | | | 0.225 | |
| Southwest | 0.000000192 | 4.026 | 3.722 | | | | -2.228 |

Table 6.15 Index Flood Ratios.

| Region | Means of Ratios $Q(T)/Q(2)$ | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|---------|
| | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Island | 1.279 | 1.490 | 1.769 | 1.981 | 2.192 | 2.682 | 2.893 |
| Avalon | 1.264 | 1.463 | 1.726 | 1.926 | 2.125 | 2.588 | 2.787 |
| Central | 1.271 | 1.476 | 1.747 | 1.951 | 2.156 | 2.632 | 2.837 |
| Northwest | 1.307 | 1.539 | 1.845 | 2.078 | 2.310 | 2.849 | 3.081 |
| Southwest | 1.267 | 1.468 | 1.736 | 1.937 | 2.139 | 2.608 | 2.810 |
| Region | Medians of Ratios $Q(T)/Q(2)$ | | | | | | |
| | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Island | 1.281 | 1.495 | 1.776 | 1.989 | 2.203 | 2.697 | 2.910 |
| Avalon | 1.265 | 1.466 | 1.732 | 1.933 | 2.134 | 2.602 | 2.803 |
| Central | 1.269 | 1.472 | 1.740 | 1.944 | 2.147 | 2.618 | 2.821 |
| Northwest | 1.298 | 1.523 | 1.821 | 2.047 | 2.273 | 2.797 | 3.022 |
| Southwest | 1.268 | 1.471 | 1.739 | 1.942 | 2.145 | 2.615 | 2.819 |

Table 6.16 Errors in Quantile Estimates Generated using the Index Flood Ratios.

| Whole Island | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Quantile | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Mean Error | 0.579 | 1.017 | 1.595 | 2.033 | 2.471 | 3.487 | 3.925 |
| RMSE | 4.282 | 7.523 | 11.803 | 15.042 | 18.282 | 25.802 | 29.042 |
| Mean Value | 118.299 | 137.486 | 162.848 | 182.034 | 201.220 | 245.769 | 264.955 |
| % Mean Error | 0.489 | 0.739 | 0.980 | 1.117 | 1.228 | 1.419 | 1.481 |
| % RMSE | 3.620 | 5.472 | 7.248 | 8.263 | 9.085 | 10.499 | 10.961 |
| Avalon Region | | | | | | | |
| Quantile | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Mean Error | 0.183 | 0.322 | 0.505 | 0.644 | 0.782 | 1.104 | 1.243 |
| RMSE | 0.838 | 1.471 | 2.309 | 2.943 | 3.576 | 5.048 | 5.681 |
| Mean Value | 50.296 | 58.122 | 68.467 | 76.292 | 84.118 | 102.289 | 110.114 |
| Mean % Error | 0.364 | 0.554 | 0.738 | 0.844 | 0.930 | 1.080 | 1.129 |
| % RMSE | 1.666 | 2.532 | 3.373 | 3.857 | 4.252 | 4.935 | 5.160 |
| Central Region | | | | | | | |
| Quantile | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Mean Error | 0.086 | 0.152 | 0.238 | 0.303 | 0.368 | 0.520 | 0.585 |
| RMSE | 3.708 | 6.512 | 10.220 | 13.024 | 15.830 | 22.341 | 25.146 |
| Mean Value | 162.673 | 188.849 | 223.451 | 249.627 | 275.803 | 336.580 | 362.756 |
| Mean % Error | 0.053 | 0.080 | 0.107 | 0.122 | 0.133 | 0.154 | 0.161 |
| % RMSE | 2.279 | 3.448 | 4.574 | 5.217 | 5.740 | 6.638 | 6.932 |

Table 6.16 Error in Quantile Estimates Generated using the Index Flood Ratios (continued).

| Northwest Region | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Quantile | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Mean Error | 1.007 | 1.767 | 2.777 | 3.538 | 4.299 | 6.069 | 6.832 |
| RMSE | 7.713 | 13.550 | 21.262 | 27.097 | 32.932 | 46.481 | 52.318 |
| Mean Value | 123.519 | 144.395 | 171.986 | 192.859 | 213.733 | 262.200 | 283.073 |
| Mean % Error | 0.815 | 1.224 | 1.614 | 1.835 | 2.012 | 2.315 | 2.414 |
| % RMSE | 6.245 | 9.384 | 12.363 | 14.050 | 15.408 | 17.727 | 18.482 |
| Southwest Region | | | | | | | |
| Quantile | Q(5) | Q(10) | Q(25) | Q(50) | Q(100) | Q(500) | Q(1000) |
| Mean Error | 0.953 | 1.674 | 2.626 | 3.347 | 4.068 | 5.741 | 6.462 |
| RMSE | 2.364 | 4.153 | 6.516 | 8.305 | 10.093 | 14.245 | 16.034 |
| Mean Value | 176.598 | 204.281 | 240.878 | 268.562 | 296.246 | 360.526 | 388.210 |
| Mean % Error | 0.540 | 0.819 | 1.090 | 1.246 | 1.373 | 1.592 | 1.664 |
| % RMSE | 1.339 | 2.033 | 2.705 | 3.092 | 3.407 | 3.951 | 4.130 |

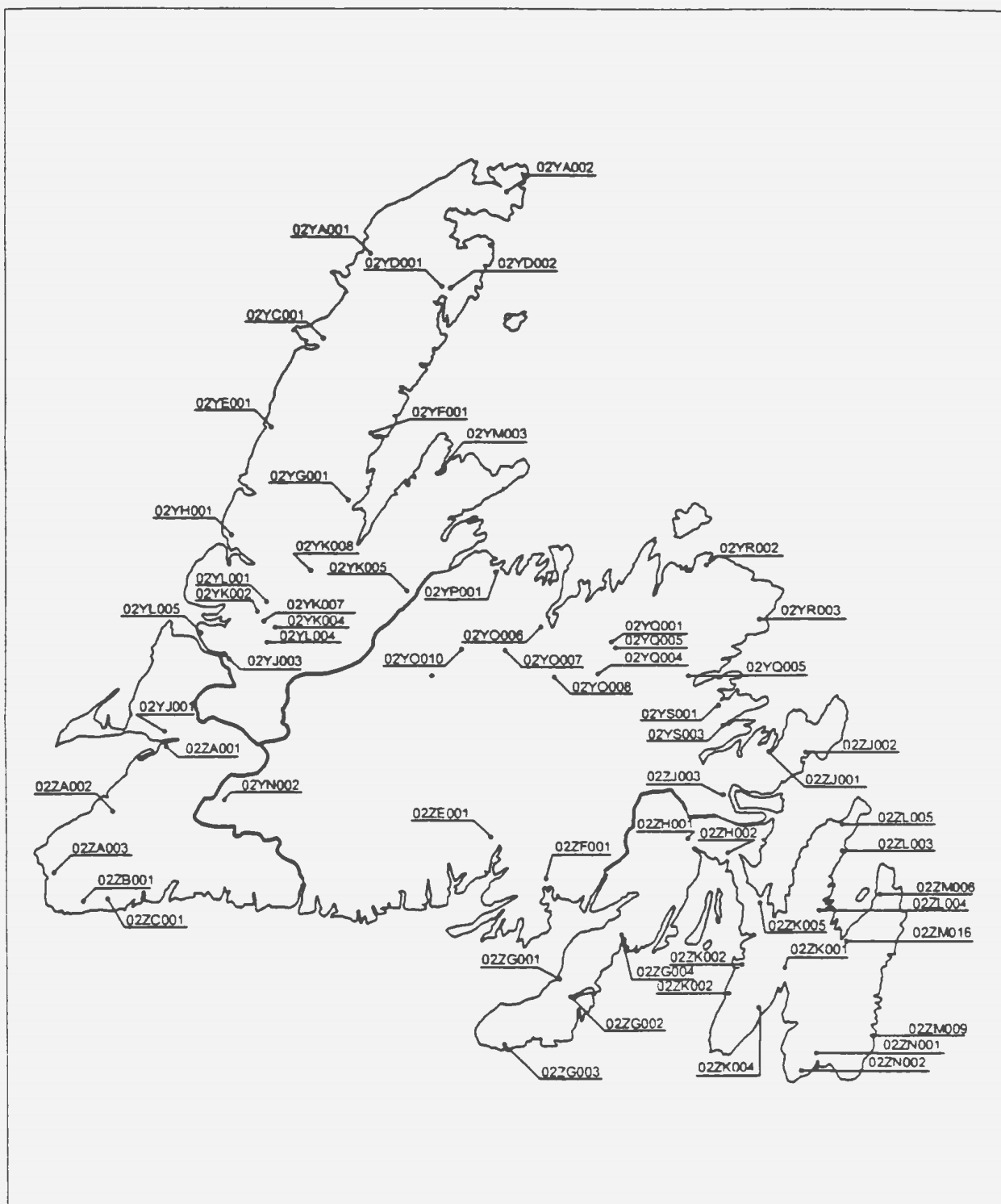


Figure 6.1 Map of Newfoundland Showing Stations

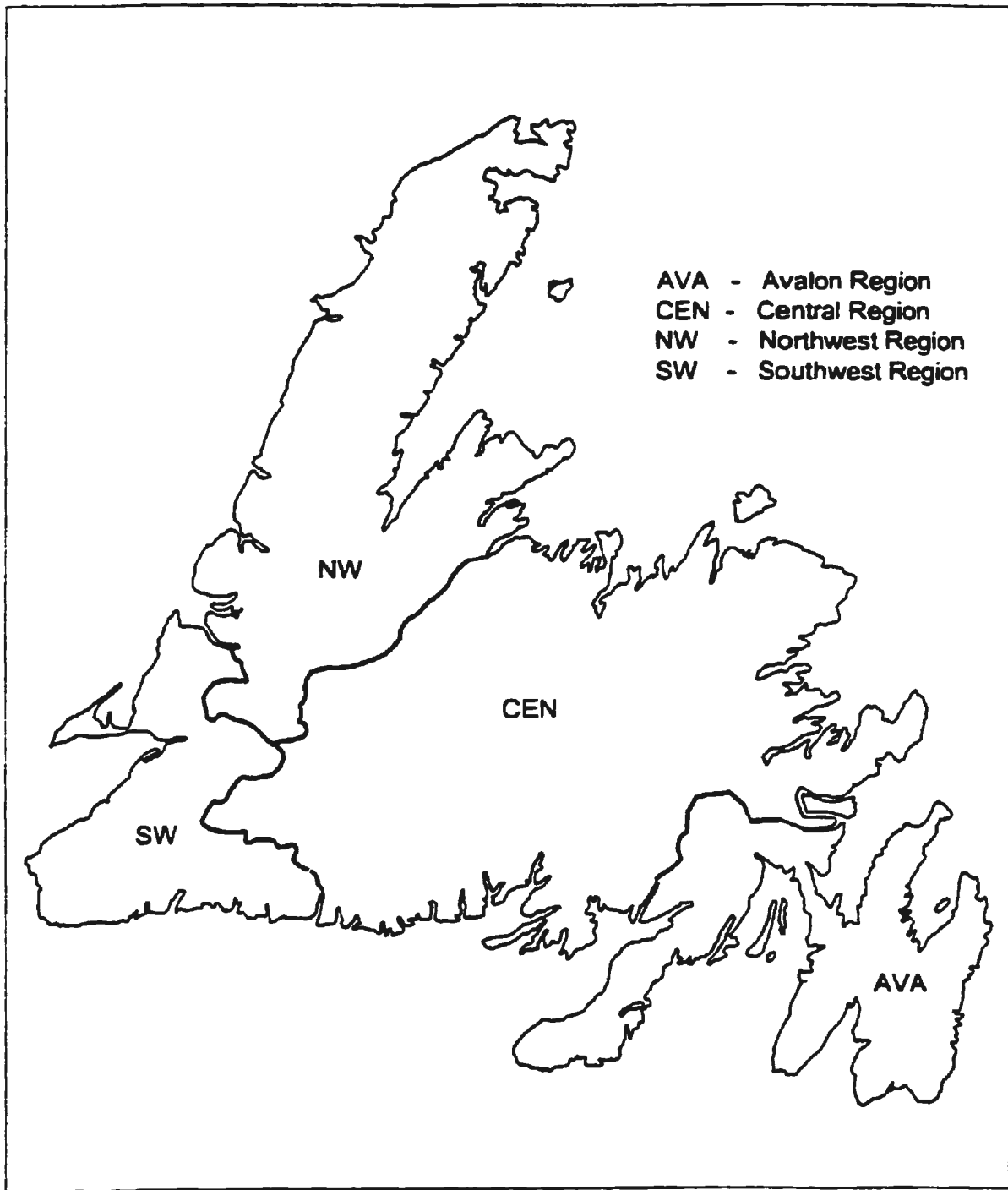


Figure 6.2 Map of Newfoundland Showing Regions

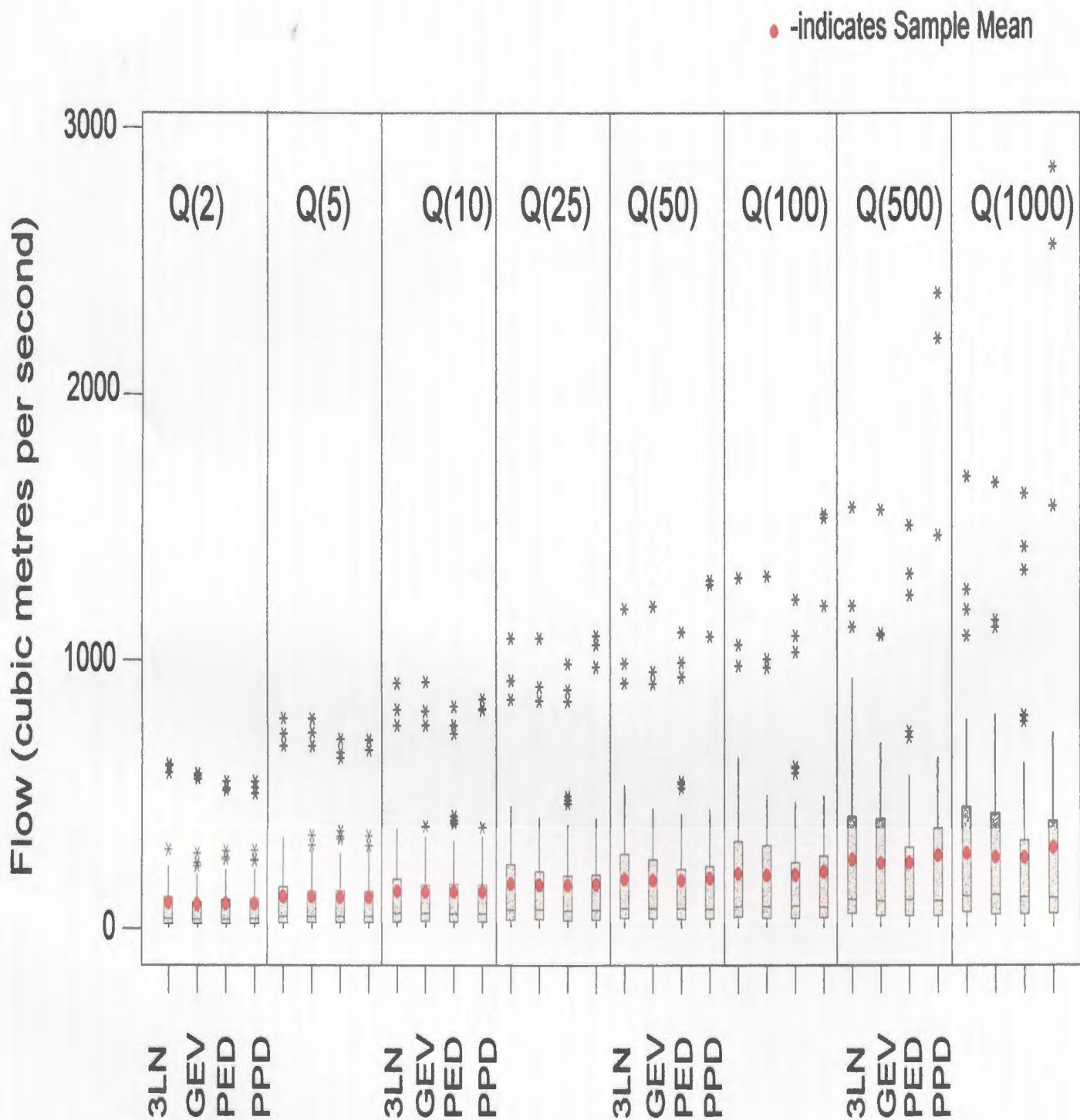


Figure 6.3 Boxplots of Flood Quantiles for 3LN, GEV, PED and PPD Models

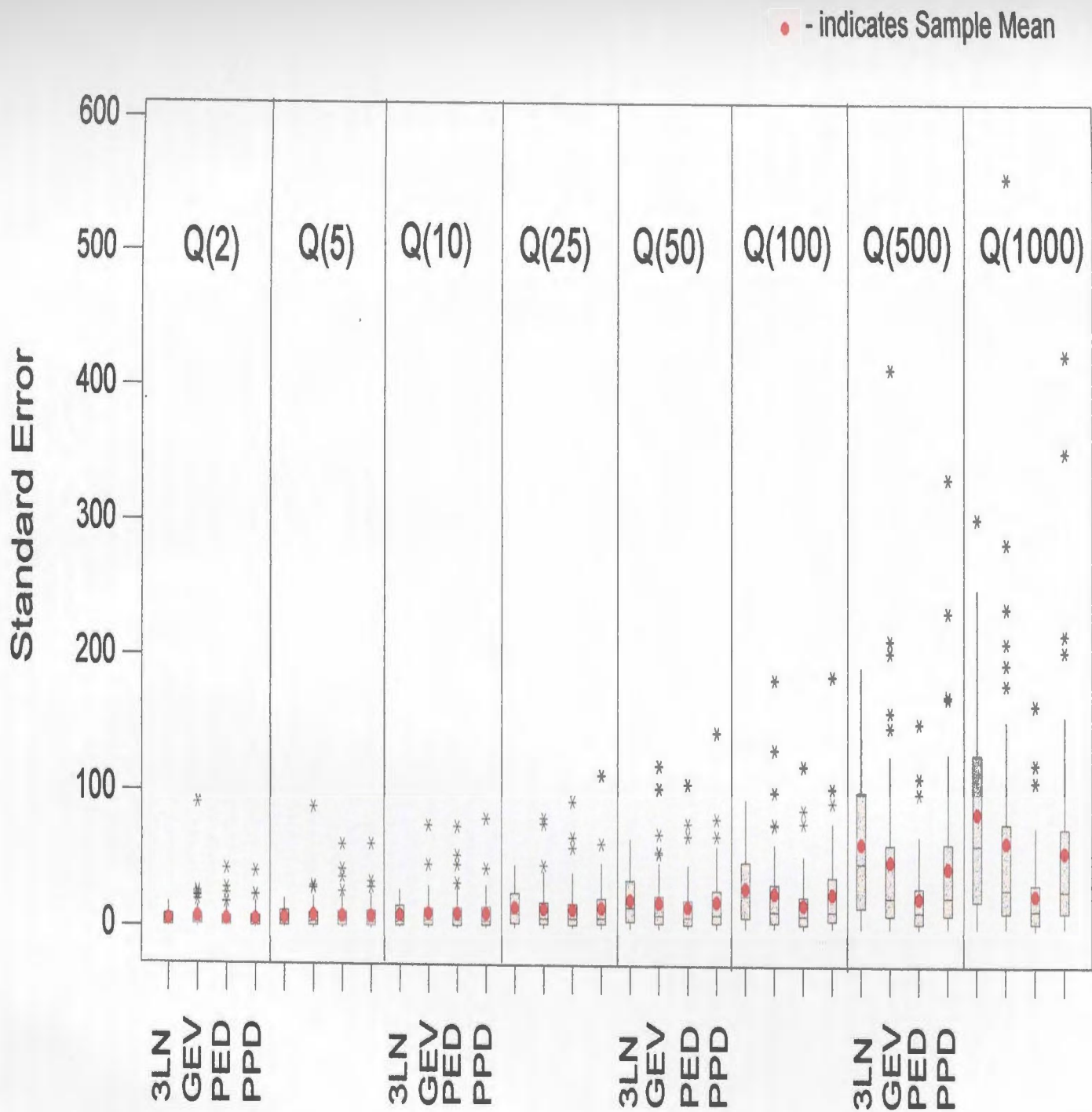


Figure 6.4 Boxplots of Standard Error of Flood Quantiles for 3LN, GEV, PED and PPD Models

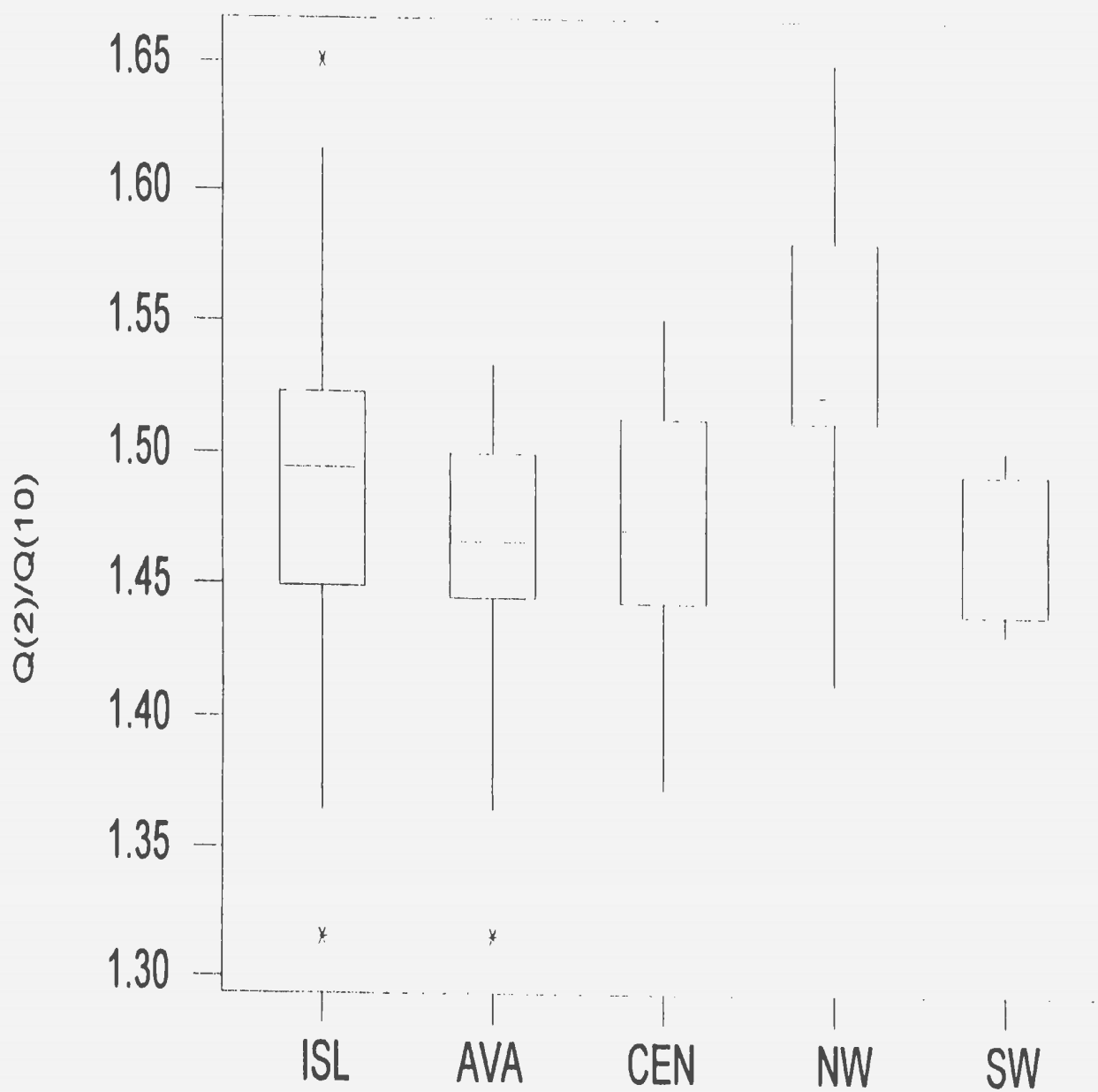


Figure 6.5 Boxplots of $Q(2)/Q(10)$ for the Island, Avalon, Central, Northwest, and Southwest Regions

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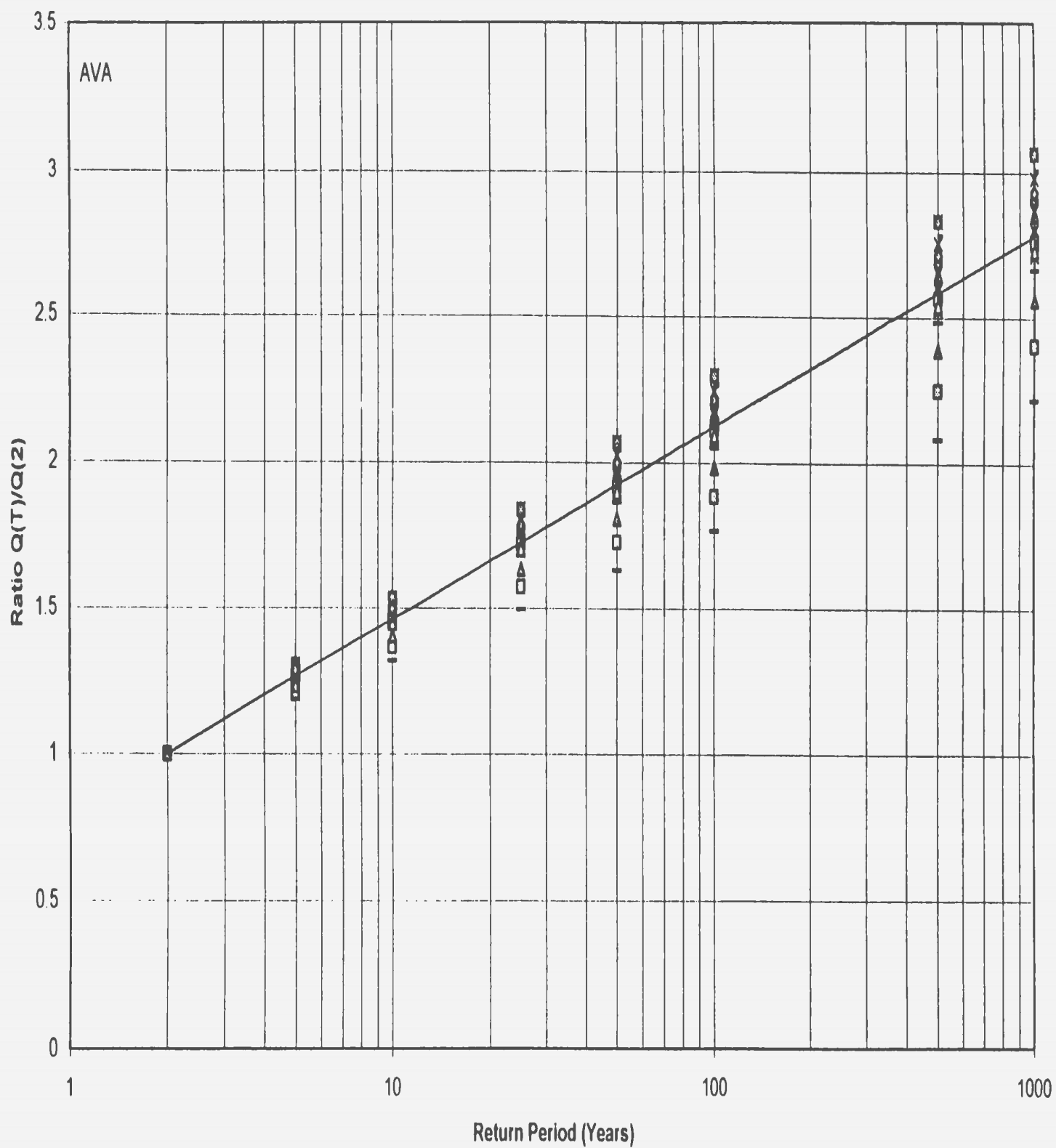


Figure 6.6b Quantile Estimation Chart For Avalon Region, $Q(T)/Q(2)$ with Data Scatter Shown

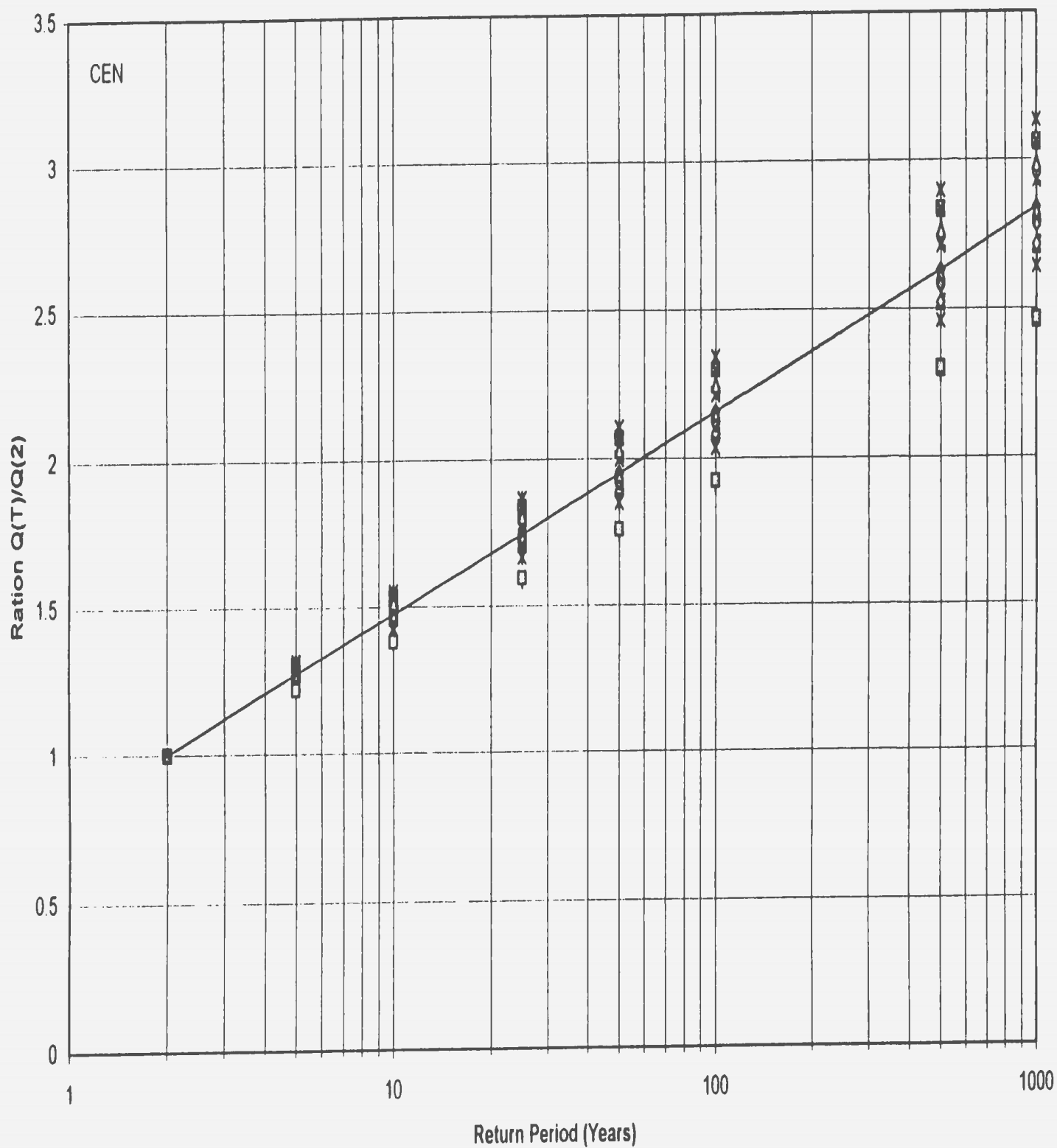


Figure 6.6c Quantile Estimation Chart For Central Region, $Q(T)/Q(2)$ with Data Scatter Shown

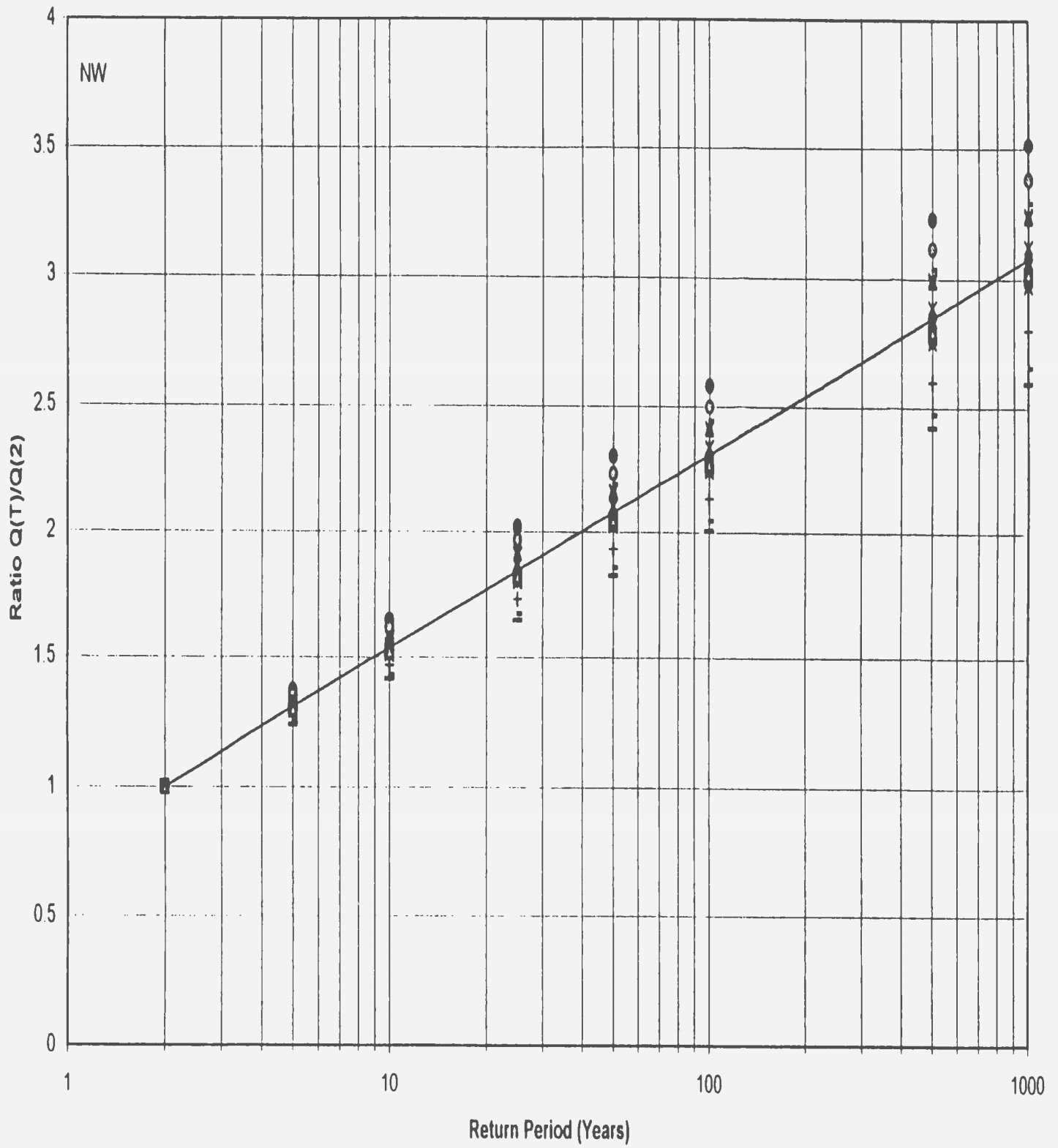


Figure 6.6d Quantile Estimation Chart For Northwest Region, $Q(T)/Q(2)$ with Data Scatter Shown

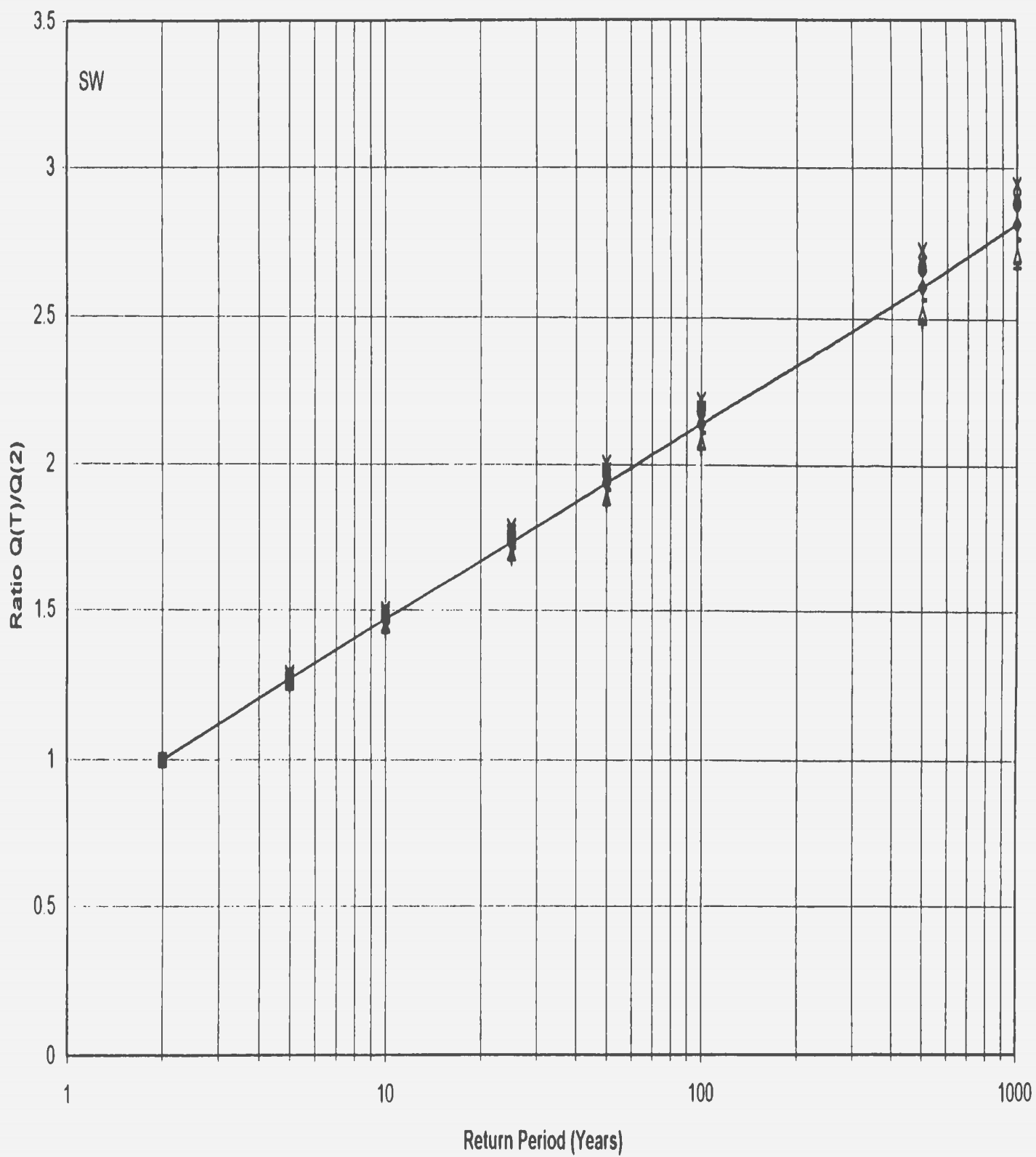


Figure 6.6e Quantile Estimation Chart For Southwest Region, $Q(T)/Q(2)$ with Data Scatter Shown

7.0 CONCLUSIONS

In this chapter, some conclusions are presented based on the expected and obtained results from application of the peak-over-threshold method to the development of regional flood frequency models for Newfoundland.

1. For the quantile estimates generated for the 63 data series analysed, there is no statistically significant difference between the central position of the results of the 3LN, GEV, PED and PPD models.
2. For the standard error of quantile estimates generated by resampling of the 63 data series analysed, the Poisson-Exponential Distribution model exhibited comparable standard error for lower quantiles and lower standard error for higher quantiles. Because of this, the PED model was determined to be the most robust for a variety of quantiles.
3. Regional models for estimation of the 2-year quantile developed using nonlinear regression exhibited better fit to the underlying data than did the models produced using the traditional log-linear method. The nonlinear models exhibited lower bias as measured by mean error, ME, and also less estimation error as measured by root mean squared error, RMSE.

4. Using the 2-year quantile as the index flood, the ratios of $Q(T)/Q(2)$ were easily calculated, and allowed estimation of flood quantiles for stations in the regions with a reasonably good fit to the expected values. For most regions RMSE was less than 10% of the mean of the expected values.
5. The estimated values from application of the index flood technique tended to overestimate the quantile slightly and results were somewhat positively skewed from expected values. This will tend to produce more conservative (higher) estimates of flood quantiles.
6. Quantile estimates using the index flood method produced the poorest results in the Northwest Region. Results were still reasonable and at lower quantiles, the RMSE was less than 10% of the mean expected value. The $Q(T)/Q(2)$ estimators derived for the whole island were tried for this region but did not produce significantly better results.
7. With the exception of the Northwest Region, the use of regional index floods produced improved quantile estimates when compared to the estimates produced by equations developed for the whole island.
8. In the Southwest Region the equation which performed best (generated estimates with the lowest error) relied on three descriptors. The number of gauge records available in this

region was only six. The coefficients developed for this equation are also somewhat suspect as they suggest a significant scaling of the result. In this region, the use of the whole island equation may provide a more reliable result and is recommended.

9. The regional models developed in this thesis, based on a POT approach, the fitting of the Poisson-Exponential model to the at site data, and the development of regional models using nonlinear regression on basin descriptors provides regional models with relatively low error when compared to similar models developed for this region using AMF data. However, because this thesis includes more data sets, uses POT data, and uses non-linear regression methods, it is difficult to attribute the improved performance one source.

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Appendix A

Data and Error Analysis for Nonlinear Regression Models

Avalon

| Station | Q(2) | DA km^2 | SLP M2 (%) | FRAC ACLS (-) | LSF | DRAIN. DENSITY km^-1 | SHAPE FACTOR (-) |
|------------|---------|------------|---------------|---------------------|------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 02zg001 | 56.996 | 205.0 | 0.60 | 0.96 | 1.91 | 0.55 | 2.45 |
| 2 02zg002 | 47.9045 | 166.0 | 0.78 | 0.92 | 1.85 | 1.35 | 1.84 |
| 3 02zg003 | 50.6158 | 115.0 | 0.34 | 0.92 | 1.85 | 1.55 | 1.62 |
| 4 02zg004 | 27.2263 | 42.7 | 1.10 | 0.92 | 1.83 | 1.62 | 1.53 |
| 5 02zh001 | 191.017 | 764.0 | 0.38 | 0.91 | 1.57 | 0.71 | 1.67 |
| 6 02zh002 | 22.7407 | 43.3 | 0.59 | 0.92 | 1.87 | 1.11 | 1.66 |
| 7 02zk001 | 107.886 | 285.0 | 0.23 | 0.55 | 1.47 | 1.01 | 2.00 |
| 8 02zk002 | 44.9612 | 89.6 | 0.57 | 0.81 | 1.64 | 1.11 | 1.91 |
| 9 02zk003 | 30.1742 | 37.2 | 1.77 | 0.34 | 1.24 | 1.16 | 1.48 |
| 10 02zk004 | 72.1584 | 104.0 | 0.66 | 0.91 | 1.67 | 1.50 | 1.85 |
| 11 02zk005 | 17.0865 | 50.3 | 0.88 | 0.50 | 1.45 | 1.18 | 1.90 |
| 12 02zl003 | 6.04686 | 10.8 | 1.25 | 1.00 | 1.95 | 1.09 | 1.36 |
| 13 02zl004 | 10.8401 | 28.9 | 1.03 | 0.39 | 1.36 | 1.14 | 1.73 |
| 14 02zl005 | 3.77604 | 11.2 | 2.43 | 1.00 | 1.95 | 1.00 | 1.52 |
| 15 02zm006 | 2.16978 | 3.9 | 2.42 | 1.00 | 1.89 | 1.04 | 1.24 |
| 16 02zm009 | 21.5668 | 53.6 | 0.98 | 1.00 | 1.93 | 1.13 | 1.37 |
| 17 02zm016 | 8.75295 | 17.3 | 2.22 | 0.90 | 1.84 | 1.01 | 1.40 |
| 18 02zn001 | 30.2479 | 53.3 | 0.61 | 1.00 | 1.94 | 1.09 | 2.06 |
| 19 02zn002 | 6.90198 | 15.5 | 0.43 | 0.82 | 1.75 | 1.03 | 1.53 |

Estimates Calculated using DA only

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | ErrMSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 73.69738 | 16.70138 | 0.541017 | 278.9361 | 95.97557 | 9.796712 |
| 63.19045 | 15.28595 | | 233.6602 | | |
| 48.35677 | -2.25903 | | 5.103205 | | |
| 23.48732 | -3.73898 | | 13.97994 | | |
| 192.2655 | 1.248518 | | 1.558796 | | |
| 23.72743 | 0.986729 | | 0.973634 | | |
| 93.70248 | -14.1835 | | 201.1723 | | |
| 40.31364 | -4.64756 | | 21.59986 | | |
| 21.24141 | -8.93279 | | 79.79469 | | |
| 44.93971 | -27.2187 | | 740.8572 | | |
| 26.46595 | 9.379454 | | 87.97416 | | |
| 8.623374 | 2.576514 | | 6.638425 | | |
| 17.67108 | 6.83098 | | 46.66229 | | |
| 8.855023 | 5.078983 | | 25.79606 | | |
| 4.104324 | 1.934544 | | 3.742461 | | |
| 27.72062 | 6.153815 | | 37.86944 | | |
| 12.157 | 3.404051 | | 11.58756 | | |
| 27.60744 | -2.64046 | | 6.972036 | | |
| 11.22141 | 4.31943 | | 18.65747 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SLP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | ErrMSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 69.64164 | 12.64564 | -0.1721 | 159.9123 | 79.12005 | 8.894945 |
| 57.17186 | 9.267362 | | 85.884 | | |
| 52.99113 | 2.375328 | | 5.642184 | | |
| 21.15356 | -6.07274 | | 36.87817 | | |
| 187.3726 | -3.64441 | | 13.28172 | | |
| 24.29035 | 1.549646 | | 2.401403 | | |
| 106.6287 | -1.2573 | | 1.580804 | | |
| 40.1907 | -4.7705 | | 22.75765 | | |
| 17.41503 | -12.7592 | | 162.7965 | | |
| 43.05874 | -29.0997 | | 846.7902 | | |
| 24.75274 | 7.666236 | | 58.77117 | | |
| 8.092628 | 2.045768 | | 4.185166 | | |
| 16.43818 | 5.59808 | | 31.3385 | | |
| 7.211766 | 3.435726 | | 11.80421 | | |
| 3.5264 | 1.35662 | | 1.840417 | | |
| 25.26651 | 3.699714 | | 13.68788 | | |
| 9.874136 | 1.121186 | | 1.257057 | | |
| 27.78625 | -2.46165 | | 6.059739 | | |
| 12.9362 | 6.034221 | | 36.41182 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & DRD

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 59.50561 | 2.509614 | 0.184984 | 6.298161 | 74.65818 | 8.640496 |
| 70.73379 | 22.82929 | | 521.1766 | | |
| 55.34405 | 4.728251 | | 22.35636 | | |
| 25.15875 | -2.06755 | | 4.274743 | | |
| 191.2753 | 0.258312 | | 0.066725 | | |
| 22.047 | -0.6937 | | 0.481226 | | |
| 98.09069 | -9.79531 | | 95.94814 | | |
| 39.77326 | -5.18794 | | 26.91477 | | |
| 19.8192 | -10.355 | | 107.226 | | |
| 50.39422 | -21.7642 | | 473.6795 | | |
| 25.48893 | 8.402427 | | 70.60078 | | |
| 7.096979 | 1.050119 | | 1.102751 | | |
| 16.03756 | 5.197464 | | 27.01364 | | |
| 7.063343 | 3.287303 | | 10.80636 | | |
| 3.041129 | 0.871349 | | 0.759249 | | |
| 26.40814 | 4.841336 | | 23.43854 | | |
| 10.09357 | 1.340621 | | 1.797264 | | |
| 25.91102 | -4.33688 | | 18.8085 | | |
| 9.301156 | 2.399176 | | 5.756045 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & FRAC

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 70.17106 | 13.17506 | 0.315833 | 173.5821 | 85.70844 | 9.257885 |
| 60.60427 | 12.69977 | | 161.2842 | | |
| 46.05368 | -4.56212 | | 20.81292 | | |
| 21.94939 | -5.27691 | | 27.8458 | | |
| 190.4029 | -0.61411 | | 0.377131 | | |
| 22.17968 | -0.56102 | | 0.314741 | | |
| 104.0571 | -3.82892 | | 14.66061 | | |
| 39.52196 | -5.43924 | | 29.58533 | | |
| 25.77194 | -4.40226 | | 19.37989 | | |
| 42.8411 | -29.3173 | | 859.5039 | | |
| 29.15986 | 12.07336 | | 145.7661 | | |
| 7.6784 | 1.63154 | | 2.661923 | | |
| 20.5754 | 9.735303 | | 94.77612 | | |
| 7.890143 | 4.114103 | | 16.92584 | | |
| 3.584149 | 1.414369 | | 2.000441 | | |
| 25.44984 | 3.883039 | | 15.07799 | | |
| 11.2318 | 2.478851 | | 6.144704 | | |
| 25.34322 | -4.90468 | | 24.05593 | | |
| 10.60397 | 3.701992 | | 13.70475 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & LSF

| Output | Error | Mean Error Square Err | MSE | RMSE | |
|----------|----------|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 64.13961 | 7.143607 | 0.710325 | 51.03112 | 73.40004 | 8.567382 |
| 57.07824 | 9.173743 | | 84.15755 | | |
| 44.19989 | -6.41591 | | 41.16385 | | |
| 22.42997 | -4.79633 | | 23.00474 | | |
| 193.5797 | 2.562697 | | 6.567415 | | |
| 22.25122 | -0.48948 | | 0.239588 | | |
| 103.5365 | -4.34946 | | 18.91777 | | |
| 41.8107 | -3.1505 | | 9.925661 | | |
| 29.69118 | -0.48302 | | 0.233311 | | |
| 45.58398 | -26.5744 | | 706.2 | | |
| 31.47517 | 14.38867 | | 207.0338 | | |
| 8.129276 | 2.082416 | | 4.336457 | | |
| 22.82507 | 11.98497 | | 143.6395 | | |
| 8.354271 | 4.578231 | | 20.9602 | | |
| 4.130298 | 1.960518 | | 3.843632 | | |
| 24.99687 | 3.430068 | | 11.76537 | | |
| 11.93534 | 3.182394 | | 10.12763 | | |
| 24.82297 | -5.42493 | | 29.42986 | | |
| 11.59489 | 4.692907 | | 22.02338 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & LSF & drd

| Output | Error | Mean Error Square Err | MSE | RMSE | |
|----------|----------|-----------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| 53.0522 | -3.9438 | 0.313434 | 15.55358 | 57.97161 | 7.613909 |
| 64.10801 | 16.20351 | | 262.5537 | | |
| 50.69916 | 0.083365 | | 0.00695 | | |
| 24.14092 | -3.08538 | | 9.519548 | | |
| 191.3752 | 0.358229 | | 0.128328 | | |
| 20.97216 | -1.76854 | | 3.12772 | | |
| 106.7658 | -1.12018 | | 1.254803 | | |
| 41.18563 | -3.77557 | | 14.25493 | | |
| 27.00475 | -3.16945 | | 10.04544 | | |
| 50.77108 | -21.3873 | | 457.4174 | | |
| 29.95008 | 12.86358 | | 165.4718 | | |
| 6.859748 | 0.812888 | | 0.660786 | | |
| 20.40159 | 9.561494 | | 91.42216 | | |
| 6.842856 | 3.066816 | | 9.405361 | | |
| 3.145975 | 0.976195 | | 0.952957 | | |
| 24.20021 | 2.633411 | | 6.934852 | | |
| 10.09819 | 1.345236 | | 1.80966 | | |
| 23.70262 | -6.54528 | | 42.84068 | | |
| 9.748026 | 2.846046 | | 8.09998 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SHP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | RMSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 70.01072 | 13.01472 | 0.815673 | 169.3829 | 94.36929 | 9.714386 |
| 63.25905 | 15.35455 | | 235.7623 | | |
| 49.63319 | -0.98261 | | 0.965519 | | |
| 24.47997 | -2.74633 | | 7.542323 | | |
| 194.031 | 3.013952 | | 9.083908 | | |
| 24.38033 | 1.639629 | | 2.688383 | | |
| 92.11016 | -15.7758 | | 248.8771 | | |
| 40.21717 | -4.74403 | | 22.50585 | | |
| 22.29636 | -7.87784 | | 62.06033 | | |
| 45.06056 | -27.0978 | | 734.2929 | | |
| 26.52489 | 9.438388 | | 89.08317 | | |
| 9.261071 | 3.214211 | | 10.33115 | | |
| 18.06737 | 7.227272 | | 52.23346 | | |
| 9.316537 | 5.540497 | | 30.69711 | | |
| 4.505559 | 2.335779 | | 5.455864 | | |
| 29.4328 | 7.865996 | | 61.8739 | | |
| 12.94597 | 4.19302 | | 17.58142 | | |
| 27.26424 | -2.98366 | | 8.902205 | | |
| 11.7699 | 4.867921 | | 23.69665 | | |

Central

| | | DA | M2 | Frac | LSF | DENSITY | Shape |
|--------------|---------|--------|------|------|------|---------|--------|
| | | km^2 | (%) | ACLS | | km^-1 | FACTOR |
| | | | | (-) | | | (-) |
| STATION Q(2) | | | | | | | |
| 02yn002 | 174.19 | 469.0 | 0.30 | 1.00 | 1.91 | 1.37 | 2.15 |
| 02yo006 | 44.3773 | 177.0 | 0.45 | 0.97 | 1.89 | 0.80 | 1.93 |
| 02yo007 | 24.3845 | 88.3 | 0.88 | 0.73 | 1.57 | 0.74 | 1.52 |
| 02yo008 | 201.651 | 823.0 | 0.30 | 0.55 | 1.40 | 0.69 | 1.80 |
| 02yo010 | 12.5348 | 61.6 | 0.62 | 0.89 | 1.79 | 0.77 | 1.55 |
| 02yp001 | 19.1705 | 63.8 | 0.53 | 0.79 | 1.72 | 0.88 | 1.62 |
| 02yq001 | 548.476 | 4400.0 | 0.15 | 0.91 | 1.82 | 0.45 | 2.08 |
| 02yq004 | 525.105 | 2150.0 | 0.17 | 0.44 | 1.22 | 0.45 | 1.63 |
| 02yq005 | 29.9944 | 80.8 | 1.03 | 0.87 | 1.79 | 1.09 | 1.78 |
| 02yr001 | 29.0624 | 267.0 | 0.32 | 0.98 | 1.86 | 0.26 | 1.93 |
| 02yr002 | 65.955 | 399.0 | 0.21 | 0.96 | 1.79 | 0.74 | 1.68 |
| 02yr003 | 52.3768 | 554.0 | 0.23 | 0.97 | 1.80 | 0.68 | 1.72 |
| 02ys001 | 177.662 | 1290.0 | 0.12 | 0.92 | 1.76 | 0.73 | 2.35 |
| 02ys003 | 10.3352 | 36.7 | 1.11 | 1.00 | 1.92 | 0.64 | 1.43 |
| 02ze001 | 289.281 | 2640.0 | 0.08 | 1.00 | 1.92 | 0.36 | 1.75 |
| 02zf001 | 173.737 | 1170.0 | 0.34 | 0.96 | 1.84 | 0.61 | 2.15 |
| 02zj001 | 19.9982 | 67.4 | 0.50 | 0.86 | 1.78 | 1.24 | 1.64 |
| 02zj002 | 12.1815 | 73.6 | 0.55 | 0.82 | 1.72 | 1.11 | 1.33 |
| 02zj003 | 22.8753 | 106.0 | 0.91 | 0.68 | 1.58 | 0.66 | 1.66 |

Estimates Calculated using DA only

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Err | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 103.1394 | -71.0506 | 3.251113 | 5048.194 | 3407.845 | 58.37675 |
| 49.07994 | 4.702641 | | 22.11483 | | |
| 28.88952 | 4.505015 | | 20.29516 | | |
| 158.3251 | -43.3259 | | 1877.132 | | |
| 21.9565 | 9.421698 | | 88.76839 | | |
| 22.5516 | 3.381104 | | 11.43187 | | |
| 568.0661 | 19.59012 | | 383.7729 | | |
| 329.1357 | -195.969 | | 38403.98 | | |
| 26.99988 | -2.99452 | | 8.967161 | | |
| 67.13791 | 38.07551 | | 1449.745 | | |
| 91.18535 | 25.23035 | | 636.5703 | | |
| 117.0988 | 64.72199 | | 4188.936 | | |
| 222.9996 | 45.33757 | | 2055.495 | | |
| 14.79638 | 4.461185 | | 19.90217 | | |
| 384.8823 | 95.60132 | | 9139.612 | | |
| 207.0084 | 33.27144 | | 1106.989 | | |
| 23.51502 | 3.516818 | | 12.36801 | | |
| 25.14613 | 12.96463 | | 168.0817 | | |
| 33.20544 | 10.33014 | | 106.7117 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SLP only

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Err | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 107.9333 | -66.2567 | 4.707915 | 4389.956 | 2951.302 | 54.32589 |
| 52.57591 | 8.198607 | | 67.21715 | | |
| 35.28152 | 10.89702 | | 118.7451 | | |
| 174.2858 | -27.3652 | | 748.8557 | | |
| 23.46527 | 10.93047 | | 119.4752 | | |
| 23.09074 | 3.920244 | | 15.36832 | | |
| 594.3642 | 45.88823 | | 2105.73 | | |
| 336.2084 | -188.897 | | 35681.93 | | |
| 34.21615 | 4.22175 | | 17.82317 | | |
| 67.78039 | 38.71799 | | 1499.083 | | |
| 85.14516 | 19.19016 | | 368.2624 | | |
| 114.4675 | 62.09072 | | 3855.257 | | |
| 196.7096 | 19.04764 | | 362.8127 | | |
| 17.82005 | 7.484848 | | 56.02295 | | |
| 323.9149 | 34.63394 | | 1199.51 | | |
| 243.7408 | 70.0038 | | 4900.532 | | |
| 23.7688 | 3.770603 | | 14.21745 | | |
| 26.394 | 14.2125 | | 201.9951 | | |
| 41.63573 | 18.76043 | | 351.9538 | | |

| Estimates Calculated using DA & FACLS | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | ErrMSE | RMSE |
| 76.60538 | -97.5846 | -1.28021 | 9522.757 | 695.9943 | 26.3817 |
| 34.97408 | -9.40322 | | 88.42053 | | |
| 24.71519 | 0.330686 | | 0.109353 | | |
| 198.1362 | -3.51477 | | 12.3536 | | |
| 15.61581 | 3.081006 | | 9.492599 | | |
| 17.70448 | -1.46602 | | 2.149226 | | |
| 530.0121 | -18.4639 | | 340.9173 | | |
| 526.5684 | 1.463361 | | 2.141425 | | |
| 19.92216 | -10.0722 | | 101.4499 | | |
| 48.78787 | 19.72547 | | 389.0942 | | |
| 69.23746 | 3.282465 | | 10.77458 | | |
| 90.15546 | 37.77866 | | 1427.227 | | |
| 189.7682 | 12.10617 | | 146.5595 | | |
| 9.246329 | -1.08887 | | 1.185641 | | |
| 321.3972 | 32.11617 | | 1031.449 | | |
| 169.0757 | -4.6613 | | 21.7277 | | |
| 17.29984 | -2.69836 | | 7.281164 | | |
| 19.34153 | 7.16003 | | 51.26603 | | |
| 30.46056 | 7.585256 | | 57.53611 | | |

| Estimates Calculated using DA & LSF | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|
| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | ErrMSE |
| 74.45143 | -99.7386 | -2.23373 | 9947.782 | 737.9308 |
| 33.26017 | -11.1171 | | 123.5905 | |
| 24.39794 | 0.013443 | | 0.000181 | |
| 191.1793 | -10.4717 | | 109.6575 | |
| 14.77955 | 2.24475 | | 5.038902 | |
| 16.17003 | -3.00047 | | 9.002815 | |
| 528.1317 | -20.3443 | | 413.889 | |
| 522.405 | -2.69998 | | 7.289913 | |
| 18.57787 | -11.4165 | | 130.3371 | |
| 48.21916 | 19.15676 | | 366.9813 | |
| 71.36403 | 5.409027 | | 29.25757 | |
| 93.17667 | 40.79987 | | 1664.629 | |
| 196.6011 | 18.93911 | | 358.6897 | |
| 8.589739 | -1.74546 | | 3.046634 | |
| 316.8205 | 27.53947 | | 758.4225 | |
| 170.184 | -3.55297 | | 12.62362 | |
| 16.12787 | -3.87033 | | 14.97947 | |
| 18.2922 | 6.110702 | | 37.34068 | |
| 28.17882 | 5.303516 | | 28.12728 | |

| RMSE | Estimates Calculated using DA & DRD | | | | | RMSE |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| | Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | |
| 27.16488 | 126.3153 | -47.8747 | 3.469568 | 2291.989 | 3284.476 | 57.31035 |
| | 48.16624 | 3.788939 | | 14.35606 | | |
| | 26.50597 | 2.121465 | | 4.500614 | | |
| | 164.4892 | -37.1618 | | 1381.002 | | |
| | 19.91093 | 7.376129 | | 54.40727 | | |
| | 21.28223 | 2.111727 | | 4.459389 | | |
| | 581.0668 | 32.59079 | | 1062.16 | | |
| | 320.9601 | -204.145 | | 41675.13 | | |
| | 27.60022 | -2.39418 | | 5.732087 | | |
| | 48.38688 | 19.32448 | | 373.4355 | | |
| | 92.26536 | 26.31036 | | 692.2353 | | |
| | 118.2685 | 65.89169 | | 4341.715 | | |
| | 242.1325 | 64.47048 | | 4156.443 | | |
| | 12.29349 | 1.958287 | | 3.834888 | | |
| | 357.0746 | 67.79363 | | 4595.976 | | |
| | 212.4098 | 38.67283 | | 1495.588 | | |
| | 24.64517 | 4.64697 | | 21.59433 | | |
| | 25.68697 | 13.50547 | | 182.3978 | | |
| | 29.80944 | 6.934143 | | 48.08234 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SHP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| 83.03911 | -91.1509 | 2.037112 | 8308.484 | 2875.458 | 53.6233 |
| 42.4031 | -1.9742 | | 3.89746 | | |
| 31.51792 | 7.133424 | | 50.88574 | | |
| 160.5471 | -41.1039 | | 1689.533 | | |
| 22.98835 | 10.45355 | | 109.2768 | | |
| 22.51829 | 3.347789 | | 11.20769 | | |
| 534.5016 | -13.9744 | | 195.2833 | | |
| 392.842 | -132.263 | | 17493.51 | | |
| 24.52336 | -5.47104 | | 29.93229 | | |
| 59.27971 | 30.21731 | | 913.086 | | |
| 95.95436 | 29.99936 | | 899.9619 | | |
| 122.821 | 70.44415 | | 4962.379 | | |
| 171.2843 | -6.37769 | | 40.6749 | | |
| 16.51135 | 6.176147 | | 38.14479 | | |
| 428.5445 | 139.2635 | | 19394.31 | | |
| 174.9236 | 1.186559 | | 1.407923 | | |
| 23.14396 | 3.145756 | | 9.895779 | | |
| 31.6005 | 19.419 | | 377.0975 | | |
| 33.10905 | 10.23375 | | 104.7297 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SLP & FACLS

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 78.86622 | -95.3238 | -3.90085 | 9086.622 | 887.4464 | 29.79004 |
| 35.15721 | -9.22009 | | 85.01008 | | |
| 25.67201 | 1.287513 | | 1.657689 | | |
| 190.4217 | -11.2293 | | 126.0969 | | |
| 14.70392 | 2.169122 | | 4.705089 | | |
| 15.56652 | -3.60398 | | 12.98867 | | |
| 584.2506 | 35.77465 | | 1279.825 | | |
| 464.0179 | -61.0871 | | 3731.634 | | |
| 22.28083 | -7.71357 | | 59.49922 | | |
| 47.17635 | 18.11395 | | 328.1153 | | |
| 62.74879 | -3.20621 | | 10.27979 | | |
| 86.80141 | 34.42461 | | 1185.054 | | |
| 168.9091 | -8.75294 | | 76.61398 | | |
| 9.847735 | -0.48747 | | 0.237622 | | |
| 286.868 | -2.41302 | | 5.82268 | | |
| 200.7425 | 27.00554 | | 729.2994 | | |
| 15.35845 | -4.63975 | | 21.52732 | | |
| 17.67891 | 5.497407 | | 30.22148 | | |
| 32.16356 | 9.28826 | | 86.27177 | | |

Northwest

| STATION | Q(l) 2.00 | DA km ² | ACLS (-) | LSF | M2 (%) | DENSITY km ⁻¹ | FACTOR (-) |
|------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------|------|-----------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1 02ya001 | 30.032 | 306.0 | 0.96 | 1.78 | 0.14 | 0.54 | 1.48 |
| 2 02ya002 | 16.525 | 33.6 | 0.99 | 1.91 | 1.21 | 0.91 | 1.64 |
| 3 02yc001 | 177.065 | 624.0 | 0.99 | 1.91 | 1.01 | 0.76 | 1.45 |
| 4 02yd001 | 91.857 | 237.0 | 0.73 | 1.68 | 0.68 | 0.34 | 2.23 |
| 5 02yd002 | 38.0701 | 200.0 | 0.99 | 1.90 | 0.47 | 0.93 | 1.65 |
| 6 02ye001 | 38.3833 | 95.7 | 0.88 | 1.82 | 3.09 | 0.75 | 1.64 |
| 7 02yf001 | 265.165 | 611.0 | 1.00 | 1.93 | 0.73 | 0.58 | 1.86 |
| 8 02yg001 | 258.593 | 627.0 | 0.63 | 1.55 | 1.11 | 1.30 | 1.83 |
| 9 02yh001 | 5.40227 | 33.4 | 0.93 | 1.86 | 0.85 | 1.13 | 1.68 |
| 10 02yj003 | 28.9783 | 119.0 | 1.00 | 1.95 | 0.78 | 1.73 | 1.54 |
| 11 02yk002 | 110.495 | 470.0 | 1.00 | 1.92 | 0.59 | 0.63 | 2.32 |
| 12 02yk004 | 82.25 | 529.0 | 0.95 | 1.77 | 0.32 | 0.64 | 1.78 |
| 13 02yk005 | 60.9237 | 391.0 | 0.94 | 1.85 | 1.07 | 0.19 | 1.98 |
| 14 02yk007 | 23.1046 | 112.0 | 0.98 | 1.91 | 0.90 | 1.28 | 1.61 |
| 15 02yk008 | 8.75146 | 20.4 | 0.65 | 1.50 | 1.16 | 1.28 | 1.47 |
| 16 02yl001 | 514.83 | 2110.0 | 0.75 | 1.68 | 0.46 | 0.79 | 1.56 |
| 17 02yl004 | 26.7432 | 58.5 | 0.08 | 1.06 | 1.04 | 1.34 | 1.54 |
| 18 02yl005 | 10.1766 | 17.0 | 0.46 | 1.39 | 2.88 | 1.05 | 1.10 |
| 19 02ym003 | 35.2427 | 93.2 | 0.56 | 1.49 | 0.57 | 0.68 | 1.67 |

Estimates Calculated using DA only

| Output | Error | Mean Error Square | ErrMSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| 89.75634 | 59.72434 | 1.46528 | 3566.996 | 1533.348 |
| 11.81278 | -4.71222 | | 22.20497 | 39.15798 |
| 172.6443 | -4.42068 | | 19.54241 | |
| 70.98913 | -20.8679 | | 435.4682 | |
| 60.7461 | 22.676 | | 514.2008 | |
| 30.87806 | -7.50524 | | 56.32863 | |
| 169.3397 | -95.8253 | | 9182.497 | |
| 173.4061 | -85.1869 | | 7256.803 | |
| 11.74822 | 6.345951 | | 40.27109 | |
| 37.71594 | 8.737641 | | 76.34638 | |
| 133.0941 | 22.59906 | | 510.7176 | |
| 148.356 | 66.10601 | | 4370.005 | |
| 112.4064 | 51.48272 | | 2650.47 | |
| 35.67426 | 12.56966 | | 157.9964 | |
| 7.471595 | -1.27986 | | 1.638054 | |
| 528.28 | 13.44996 | | 180.9014 | |
| 19.65269 | -7.09051 | | 50.27538 | |
| 6.320115 | -3.85649 | | 14.87248 | |
| 30.13677 | -5.10593 | | 26.07056 | |

Estimates Calculated using DA only

| Output | Error | Mean Error Square | ErrMSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
| 79.12415 | 49.09215 | -13.3491 | 2410.04 | 2414.798 |
| 11.91567 | -4.60933 | | 21.2459 | 49.14059 |
| 145.7199 | -31.3451 | | 982.5123 | |
| 63.56311 | -28.2939 | | 800.5441 | |
| 54.9577 | 16.8876 | | 285.1909 | |
| 29.22048 | -9.16282 | | 83.95727 | |
| 143.1143 | -122.051 | | 14896.37 | |
| 146.3201 | -112.273 | | 12605.2 | |
| 11.85486 | 6.452593 | | 41.63596 | |
| 35.22002 | 6.241717 | | 38.95903 | |
| 114.2967 | 3.801697 | | 14.4529 | |
| 126.4874 | 44.23742 | | 1956.949 | |
| 97.62056 | 36.69686 | | 1346.66 | |
| 33.43687 | 10.33227 | | 106.7559 | |
| 7.769604 | -0.98186 | | 0.964042 | |
| 413.9576 | -100.872 | | 10175.24 | |
| 19.16454 | -7.57866 | | 57.43609 | |
| 6.645697 | -3.5309 | | 12.46728 | |
| 28.56507 | -6.67763 | | 44.59078 | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SLP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|
| 37.27307 | 7.24107 | -0.51712 | 52.4331 | 922.3541 | 30.37028 |
| 10.56291 | -5.96209 | | 35.54651 | | |
| 212.1939 | 35.12889 | | 1234.039 | | |
| 62.45914 | -29.3979 | | 864.2341 | | |
| 43.32358 | 5.253483 | | 27.59909 | | |
| 50.93767 | 12.55437 | | 157.6123 | | |
| 176.1961 | -88.9689 | | 7915.472 | | |
| 223.0994 | -35.4936 | | 1259.792 | | |
| 8.803726 | 3.401456 | | 11.5699 | | |
| 32.30964 | 3.331339 | | 11.09782 | | |
| 120.2928 | 9.797764 | | 95.99618 | | |
| 99.87022 | 17.62022 | | 310.4722 | | |
| 132.7922 | 71.8685 | | 5165.082 | | |
| 32.54259 | 9.437987 | | 89.0756 | | |
| 6.103726 | -2.64773 | | 7.010496 | | |
| 517.1549 | 2.324943 | | 5.405361 | | |
| 17.60282 | -9.14038 | | 83.54657 | | |
| 7.917313 | -2.25929 | | 5.104377 | | |
| 21.32723 | -13.9155 | | 193.6404 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA & SLP &FACLS

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Err | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|
| 38.69688 | 8.664882 | 1.166213 | 75.08019 | 875.1627 | 29.58315 |
| 10.96539 | -5.55961 | | 30.90928 | | |
| 202.2032 | 25.1382 | | 631.9293 | | |
| 67.25994 | -24.5971 | | 605.0153 | | |
| 43.70454 | 5.634436 | | 31.74687 | | |
| 51.45096 | 13.06766 | | 170.7638 | | |
| 169.1102 | -96.0548 | | 9226.525 | | |
| 239.1132 | -19.4798 | | 379.4642 | | |
| 9.386508 | 3.984238 | | 15.87416 | | |
| 32.56308 | 3.584775 | | 12.85061 | | |
| 117.0829 | 6.587873 | | 43.40007 | | |
| 99.91223 | 17.66223 | | 311.9544 | | |
| 129.9835 | 69.05985 | | 4769.263 | | |
| 32.9045 | 9.7999 | | 96.03805 | | |
| 7.205608 | -1.54585 | | 2.389659 | | |
| 522.4418 | 7.611759 | | 57.93887 | | |
| 35.22211 | 8.478914 | | 71.89198 | | |
| 10.04596 | -0.13064 | | 0.017068 | | |
| 25.49384 | -9.74886 | | 95.04029 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA LSF & SLP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Err | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|------------|---------|----------|
| 39.50955 | 9.477547 | 0.413683 | 89.8239 | 893.817 | 29.89677 |
| 10.98674 | -5.53826 | | 30.67233 | | |
| 201.454 | 24.389 | | 594.8232 | | |
| 66.6812 | -25.1758 | | 633.821 | | |
| 43.48854 | 5.418442 | | 29.35952 | | |
| 51.67747 | 13.29417 | | 176.7349 | | |
| 167.1218 | -98.0432 | | 9612.475 | | |
| 239.8416 | -18.7514 | | 351.6143 | | |
| 9.373645 | 3.971375 | | 15.77182 | | |
| 32.13783 | 3.159533 | | 9.982647 | | |
| 116.1723 | 5.677328 | | 32.23206 | | |
| 102.4762 | 20.22618 | | 409.0983 | | |
| 130.1717 | 69.24804 | | 4795.291 | | |
| 32.6975 | 9.592898 | | 92.02369 | | |
| 7.475487 | -1.27597 | | 1.628107 | | |
| 517.9114 | 3.081411 | | 9.495092 | | |
| 25.84369 | -0.89951 | | 0.809122 | | |
| 10.02579 | -0.15081 | | 0.022745 | | |
| 25.40172 | -9.84098 | | 96.84483 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA SLP DRD

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 39.58734 | 9.555338 | 0.496702 | 91.30448 | 783.4308 | 27.98983 |
| 12.29672 | -4.22828 | | 17.87834 | | |
| 211.5546 | 34.48957 | | 1189.53 | | |
| 55.37291 | -36.4841 | | 1331.089 | | |
| 49.54684 | 11.47674 | | 131.7155 | | |
| 51.60739 | 13.22409 | | 174.8764 | | |
| 168.844 | -96.321 | | 9277.728 | | |
| 250.0457 | -8.5473 | | 73.05638 | | |
| 10.97362 | 5.571349 | | 31.03993 | | |
| 42.21708 | 13.23878 | | 175.2654 | | |
| 119.8905 | 9.395537 | | 88.27611 | | |
| 102.8637 | 20.61371 | | 424.925 | | |
| 98.83888 | 37.91518 | | 1437.561 | | |
| 39.52547 | 16.42087 | | 269.6449 | | |
| 7.852932 | -0.89853 | | 0.807353 | | |
| 516.4407 | 1.610689 | | 2.594317 | | |
| 22.02322 | -4.71998 | | 22.27817 | | |
| 9.339256 | -0.83734 | | 0.701144 | | |
| 23.20467 | -12.038 | | 144.9143 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA SLP LSF DRD

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|
| 39.35864 | 9.326642 | 0.626506 | 86.98625 | 781.8229 |
| 12.3024 | -4.2226 | | 17.83035 | |
| 213.6692 | 36.60424 | | 1339.87 | |
| 54.6583 | -37.1987 | | 1383.743 | |
| 49.83062 | 11.76052 | | 138.3098 | |
| 51.61981 | 13.23651 | | 175.2052 | |
| 170.2293 | -94.9357 | | 9012.793 | |
| 249.2569 | -9.33608 | | 87.1624 | |
| 10.96856 | 5.56629 | | 30.98359 | |
| 42.74301 | 13.76471 | | 189.4671 | |
| 120.7002 | 10.20519 | | 104.1459 | |
| 102.749 | 20.49895 | | 420.2071 | |
| 98.16013 | 37.23643 | | 1386.552 | |
| 39.8445 | 16.7399 | | 280.2241 | |
| 7.700816 | -1.05064 | | 1.103853 | |
| 517.8673 | 3.037269 | | 9.225003 | |
| 21.03439 | -5.70881 | | 32.59046 | |
| 9.088096 | -1.0885 | | 1.18484 | |
| 22.71074 | -12.532 | | 157.0501 | |

| RMSE | Estimates Calculated using DA only | | | | | RMSE |
|---------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------|----------|
| | Output | Error | Mean | Err | Square Err | |
| 27.9611 | 29.53867 | -0.49333 | -1.76325 | 0.243371 | 856.2264 | 29.26135 |
| | 8.326884 | -8.19812 | | 67.20911 | | |
| | 192.468 | 15.40301 | | 237.2527 | | |
| | 66.7714 | -25.0856 | | 629.2874 | | |
| | 37.5083 | -0.5618 | | 0.31562 | | |
| | 45.43836 | 7.055062 | | 49.77391 | | |
| | 182.2753 | -82.8897 | | 6870.701 | | |
| | 233.5742 | -25.0188 | | 625.9384 | | |
| | 6.921541 | 1.519271 | | 2.308183 | | |
| | 26.45514 | -2.52316 | | 6.366327 | | |
| | 137.8109 | 27.31588 | | 746.1573 | | |
| | 95.71849 | 13.46849 | | 181.4001 | | |
| | 140.3183 | 79.39462 | | 6303.506 | | |
| | 27.41988 | 4.315279 | | 18.62164 | | |
| | 4.331248 | -4.42021 | | 19.53827 | | |
| | 517.7652 | 2.935242 | | 8.615647 | | |
| | 13.84186 | -12.9013 | | 166.4445 | | |
| | 4.864363 | -5.31224 | | 28.21986 | | |
| | 17.73832 | -17.5044 | | 306.4032 | | |

Southwest

| STATION | Q(t) 2.00 | DA km ² | M2 (%) | ACLS (-) | LSF | DENSITY FACTOR km ⁻¹ | FACTOR (-) |
|-----------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------|-------------|------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 02yj001 | 201.204 | 640.0 | 0.35 | 0.75 | 1.67 | 1.12 | 1.81 |
| 2 02za001 | 107.019 | 343.0 | 0.68 | 0.83 | 1.78 | 1.04 | 2.45 |
| 3 02za002 | 38.6873 | 72.0 | 2.19 | 0.43 | 1.39 | 1.15 | 1.72 |
| 4 02za003 | 98.402 | 139.0 | 1.46 | 0.73 | 1.66 | 1.46 | 1.68 |
| 5 02zb001 | 172.434 | 205.0 | 1.27 | 0.60 | 1.52 | 0.72 | 2.09 |
| 6 02zc002 | 224.259 | 230.0 | 1.08 | 0.34 | 1.30 | 0.96 | 1.84 |

Estimates Calculated using DA only

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
| 208.5195 | 7.315524 | 0.448753 | 53.51689 | 2475.8597496 | 49.75801 |
| 162.5786 | 55.55956 | | 3086.865 | | |
| 87.20805 | 50.52075 | | 2552.346 | | |
| 113.3819 | 14.97992 | | 224.3981 | | |
| 132.3947 | -40.0393 | | 1603.143 | | |
| 138.615 | -85.644 | | 7334.89 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA SLP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|---------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 180.45 | -20.7536 | 0.325199 | 430.7117 | 1159.311 | 34.04866 |
| 167.891 | 60.87215 | | 3705.418 | | |
| 39.7003 | 3.013001 | | 9.078177 | | |
| 90.1577 | -8.24428 | | 67.96816 | | |
| 189.134 | 16.70046 | | 278.9055 | | |
| 174.622 | -49.6365 | | 2463.786 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA SLP FACLS

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|---------------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|
| 188.5159 | -12.6881 | -0.47748 | 160.9879 | 343.067 | 18.52207 |
| 139.3429 | 32.32388 | | 1044.834 | | |
| 47.1876 | 10.5003 | | 110.2564 | | |
| 73.81365 | -24.5883 | | 604.5868 | | |
| 161.074 | -11.36 | | 129.05 | | |
| 227.2064 | 2.947404 | | 8.687189 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA SLP LSF

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE | RMSE |
|--------------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|----------|
| 193.69390055 | -7.5101 | 0.298883 | 56.40159 | 243.7508 | 15.61252 |
| 130.48710161 | 23.4681 | | 550.7518 | | |
| 48.994624247 | 12.30732 | | 151.4702 | | |
| 72.899647083 | -25.5024 | | 650.37 | | |
| 166.79936628 | -5.63463 | | 31.7491 | | |
| 228.92396123 | 4.664961 | | 21.76186 | | |

Estimates Calculated using DA SLP SHP

| Output | Error | Mean Error | Square Error | MSE |
|----------|----------|------------|--------------|----------|
| 204.1245 | 2.920531 | -0.17804 | 8.529502 | 57.30543 |
| 100.7164 | -6.30258 | | 39.72251 | |
| 31.90511 | -4.78219 | | 22.86937 | |
| 104.9305 | 6.528518 | | 42.62154 | |
| 183.4399 | 11.0059 | | 121.1298 | |
| 213.8206 | -10.4384 | | 108.9599 | |

RMSE

7.570035

